



# ST. LOUIS CENTER ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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



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Janet Best provides top notch care to residents like Ken. ►

Cover image: Stanley and Lee celebrate their graduation from 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.*

2022 has been a year of graces and blessings. We give thanks to God for this.

Fr. Joseph Rinaldo retired to a residential facility for seniors run by the Servants of Charity in Bari, Italy. He came to St. Louis Center in 1980 and during his tenure, St. Joseph Hall was built, the main building was modified, and in 1988 Fr. Guanella Hall was constructed. Also, the school-age residents were enrolled in the public school system, and those beyond school age were employed either in sheltered workshops or competitive employment sites. He was instrumental at the beginning of the Legacy Campaign, which has been the basis for the construction of St. Louis Guanella Village. All of us appreciate the hard work he has done and the vision he had in moving St. Louis Center forward.

Our good friend, Ron Hingst, has gone back with the Lord. Ron was involved with the Celebrity Golf Outing since its inception. This event has raised a considerable amount of money throughout the years for the benevolent care program of St. Louis Center. Through it many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities could be served and their lives enhanced. Thank you, Ron!

The pandemic is not over, but even being a large campus, St. Louis Center didn't lose any of the residents, all of them were served with proper medical care, and have been healthy and safe.

Still, because of it, we are facing a shortage of staff. We are grateful to all the staff who is always willing to go the extra mile in helping the Center and working additional hours to care for the residents.

All the fund-raising activities resumed; the generosity and contributions of the participants have been marvelous. New volunteers have joined St. Louis Center in securing the funds for operations and construction/remodeling programs.

The General Council of the Servants of Charity gave final approval for the remodeling of St. Joseph Hall. Work started during Christmas break. Thus, continuing the vision of the strategic plan to modernize the entire Center campus and offer new ways of serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

This past year Thomas J. Schumacher was called to eternity by the Good Lord, whom he loved deeply. He was close to 81 years of age. He lived at the Center since 2018. We have another guardian angel praying for us.

I want to thank all of you for embracing St. Louis Center and trusting in this mission of love and hope. May God bless you all!

*Fr. Enzo Addari*

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



Ron Hingst enjoyed helping organize the golf outing and playing the course with a group of friends.





# ST. LOUIS CENTER: Changing with the Times

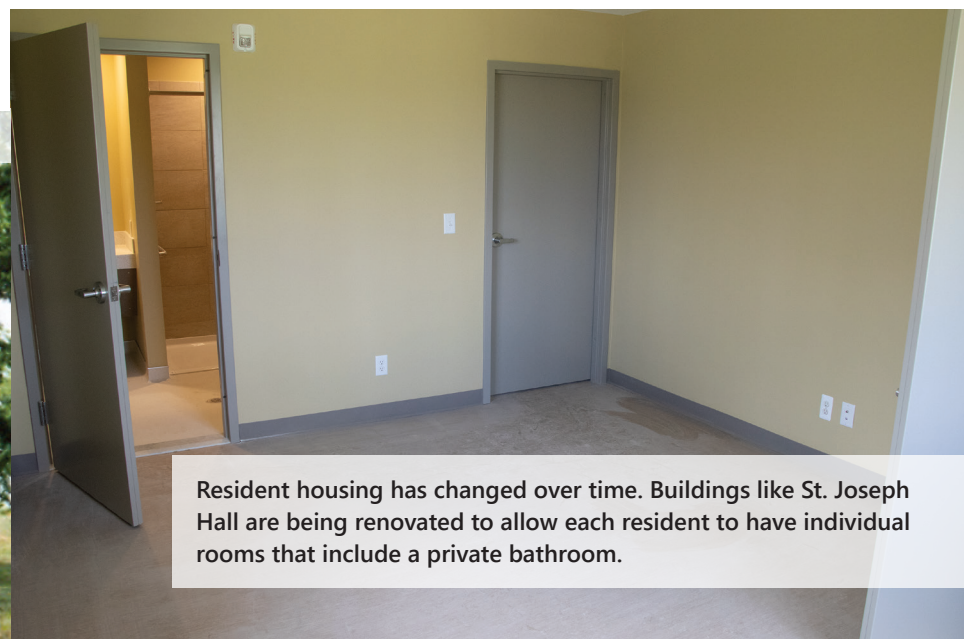
*St. Louis School for Exceptional Boys was established in 1960, and has been a pioneer in providing the most up to date programs and care for the people it serves.*



◀ The kitchen at the Center has always been the heart of the home. As residents age their dietary needs change. What started as providing meals that are child friendly now is a menu that accommodates residents who have modified dietary needs. These needs include caloric counts, carbohydrate counts, gluten and other sensitivities, and texture differences.



St. Joseph Hall was completed in 1984 thanks to the generosity of Mary Elizabeth Doyle.



Resident housing has changed over time. Buildings like St. Joseph Hall are being renovated to allow each resident to have individual rooms that include a private bathroom.



Due to the greater need for adult care, the Center expanded its care from focusing on men to also including ladies. Our Lady of Providence opened for ladies in 2001. As the need continues to grow, space for the ladies was made at Mike's House that now accommodates the more independent women. ►



◄ As St. Louis Center begins to focus on the growing need of providing a home for the aging, former residents like Jerome are able to return to spend the rest of their days in a home they are familiar with where they are cared for. Jerome was a resident at the Center when he was a young boy in the 1960s and returned in the 2000s as an older adult after his family who provided care for him were no longer able to do so.



# DAY PROGRAM: Creating Joy

*Haylie Moran took on the role of Day Program Coordinator with a clear vision of creating a program that would not only engage the residents but also enhance their physical and mental well-being.*

She quickly realized that some activities were already well-established, but they lacked variety and routine. As someone who has worked in ABA therapy and has a background in health science and psychology, she understood the importance of routines and diversity in activities to engage the residents of varying abilities.

Haylie started working on establishing a routine of daily and monthly activities that would not only engage the residents but also stimulate their minds and bodies. She observed the residents closely and learned their interests and preferences. As a result, she and the Day Program staff introduced new activities that quickly became popular among the residents, such as Virtual Reality gaming with the Chelsea District Library, music bingo with small prizes, and therapy dog visits.

The staff also recognized the importance of celebrating special occasions and milestones. They introduced birthday celebrations for the Day Program participants, which was a big hit among the residents. Additionally, Haylie is helping to create a micro-enterprise via a Farmers' Market booth every Wednesday, providing the residents with an opportunity to interact with the local community.

Through her experience and understanding of the residents' needs, Haylie and the Day Program staff are creating a program that is not only engaging but also promotes physical and mental well-being. The residents look forward to the daily and monthly activities and enjoy the sense of routine and variety that the program provides. With Haylie's efforts, the Day Program is a place where residents can learn, grow, and thrive.



Albert and Haylie help to unload the van of food that was collected at the Center for the benefit of Faith in Action.



A 4-H student introduces her calf to Alexis Smith, Day Program staffer, Linda, and Cathy.

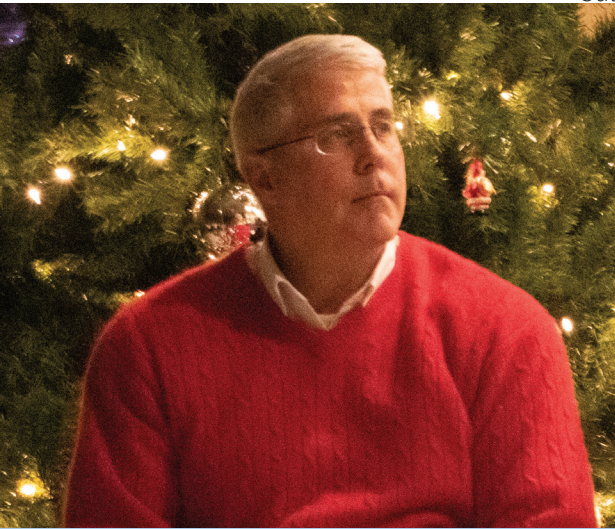
**"I enjoy the Day Program because of all the fun things we do. Everyone gets along and works together in activities."**

-Jacqui, Day Program participant



# PROGRAMS: Having Fun at Home and Beyond

*Keeping the schedules of 55 people straight is no easy task. Rick Visel has been juggling the work and social calendars of the Center's residents since 2010. He came to St. Louis Center looking to volunteer after he retired from the Washtenaw County Sheriff Department, but found himself working full-time ever since.*



Rick worked with the Social Services Department, service groups, volunteers, staff, and the residents themselves to make sure that their evenings and weekends are filled with activities and outings that the residents enjoy. In August 2020, Laura Rayer joined the team as Activities Coordinator, providing enrichment, games, and crafts several days a week to enhance the residents' daily lives.

In the early part of 2022, Carlie Hartwick transitioned from Direct Care Supervisor to Assistant Program Director in order to help manage these busy calendars. She enjoys helping the residents plan activities that they enjoy and that offer opportunities for community engagement.

Fr. Franklin, SdC took over Rick's role as Program Director, continuing the task of making life more joyful for each resident.



**Ray, Carlie Hartwick, Assistant Program Director, and Matthew enjoyed slushies during the carnival sponsored by H.B. Fuller in April.**



"It's been a privilege getting to know the residents and becoming someone they can depend on. Whether it's helping them complete their household chores or planning and participating in a big event, I am happy to spend quality time with them and watch them grow."

Carlie Hartwick, Assistant Program Director



## Evening Activities

Some of the many activities that the St. Louis Center residents enjoy include:

- Kiwanis Aktion Club
- Special Olympics
- Baseball Games
- Grocery Shopping
- Friendship Bible
- Parables
- Saturday Morning Challengers Bowling League
- Movie Outings
- Game Nights in the Gym
- Dining Out
- Nature Walks
- Basketball

St. Louis Center residents benefit from interactions with the greater community. Volunteer groups are a welcome addition to on-campus activities. If you and your group are interested, fill out the form found at this link.







Randy makes sure that the residents participate in on-campus events.

# RANDY SEITZ: Going Above and Beyond

*Randy Seitz, a fourth-year direct care worker, has become a beloved figure at St. Louis Center. As soon as he walks through the door in the afternoon, he brings brightness to the residents' day with his smile and caring demeanor.*

His warmth and compassion draw the residents to him, and they eagerly share their stories with him.

Before joining St. Louis Center, Randy owned Seitz's Tavern in Chelsea, MI, a business that had been a mainstay in the community for 103 years. Despite his love for the job, after 40 years of running the establishment, he had decided it was time to retire. "One day my wife said she could tell walking behind me that I was done," he recalls.

Randy and his wife, Dawn, have been married for 42 years and have raised three children who are now grown and living on their own. When he retired from business ownership, his wife encouraged him to find another job. "She didn't want me to sit at home and do nothing," he says. That's when he discovered St. Louis Center and joined as a direct care worker.

Now, Randy spends his days caring for the residents at St. Louis Center, providing them with the love and attention they need. His years of experience running a business have given him valuable skills that he brings to his work at the Center. He's able to connect with the residents on a personal level and help them with their daily needs.

Randy's impact on the residents at St. Louis Center is immeasurable. He brings a sense of joy and positivity to their lives, and his presence has made a real difference in their overall well-being. He's a shining example of how one person can make a meaningful impact on the lives of others.



Randy made sure that the residents under his care had a great time at the Lansing Lugnuts baseball game.



"I talk to the residents. They just like to talk. They love to tell me about themselves. They thrive when they are around me and we have fun."

Randy Seitz, Direct Care Worker





Matthias had a great time with Randy on the dance floor during the Night to Shine prom at 2|42 Community Church.



# ST. LOUIS GUANELLA VILLAGE: An Integrated Neighborhood



*10 years ago, St Louis Center had a vision—create an integrated neighborhood, where people with disabilities and those who do not, could live together and support one another. The planning for St. Louis Guanella Village began.*

The second phase included 2 small group homes, one-single family home, and 2 duplexes that would be open for community rental.

Following completion, the search for renters began. Michael and Angela Holik, along with their 10-year-old son, Jacob, were the first to rent the single family home.

“Our home had been burned down, and I was traumatized”, stated Angela. “We needed to quickly find a safe environment. All of a sudden, not only did we find a nice home, but also we were adopted into the St. Louis Center family. We felt so taken care of. We had nothing, but St. Louis Center made sure we felt like part of a community. Our son has special needs, and he fit right in, and was accepted and loved by the staff and residents. We had real neighbors that we knew, and our son was never made to feel excluded, as sometimes happens in other neighborhoods. Jacob was safe to run around the neighborhood, I never had to worry about him. There are parties all the time at St. Louis Center, and we were invited to those. I loved the place so much, I took a job there as a Direct Care Worker. We were given a safe place to heal from our trauma.”

We are so proud of what we have been able to accomplish in St. Louis Guanella Village. Together, folks with disabilities and without are able to live together, share experiences, and develop a close, cohesive neighborhood reminiscent of neighborhoods in years past.



The single family home in the Village where the Holiks lived.



Michael, Jacob, and Angela (not pictured) are grateful that St. Louis Center was able to provide the community they needed in their darkest hour.



# INDEPENDENCE COLLEGE: Where Are They Now

*Through their unwavering determination and grit, ten residents of the Center successfully completed a rigorous curriculum of classes offered by the Social Services Department.*

Dubbed "Independence College," the program was designed to equip these individuals with the necessary skills to lead more self-reliant lives.

The courses covered a wide array of topics and were tailored to each resident's unique needs and abilities. From cooking and budgeting to job readiness and communication, the program provided a comprehensive toolkit for independent living.

After months of hard work, the residents celebrated their achievements with a grand graduation ceremony in early 2022. Surrounded by family, friends, and members of the community, the graduates beamed with pride as they received their diplomas and reflected on their journey.

Since graduating, the residents have continued to reap the benefits of their newfound independence. With greater freedom to engage with the community, they have taken on new hobbies, volunteered for local causes, and formed close bonds with one another.

Every Monday the residents of Mike's House take a trip to the local grocery store to buy their necessities for the week. These ladies prepare dinner together and enjoy their meal in a family atmosphere.



Jacqui and her roommates in Mike's House take turns preparing dinner each day with minimal staff guidance.

The men moved into D'Adamo house upon graduation and really enjoy preparing their own meals and choosing activities together.



Encouraged by the success of the program, the Social Services Department is planning to relaunch Independence College. Building on the skills learned by the first cohort of graduates, the new program will continue to empower residents with the tools they need to lead independent and fulfilling lives.







Fr. Joseph enjoyed every aspect of working at St. Louis Center.

## FR. JOSEPH: A Legacy Lives On

*Fr. Joseph Rinaldo's legacy at St. Louis Center is one of service, compassion, and dedication to the care of individuals with developmental disabilities.*

His commitment to building communities of care and his willingness to seek out new solutions to meet the needs of the Center and its residents serve as an inspiration to all.

Fr. Joe left St. Louis Center in 2022 to return home to Italy. While his departure is certainly a loss, his impact will continue to be felt through the many programs he helped establish and the relationships he formed over his 42 years of service. Fr. Joe's life of service is a reminder of the power of one individual to make a positive impact on the world, and his legacy will undoubtedly continue to inspire others to follow in his footsteps.

St. Louis Center and the entire community are grateful for Fr. Joseph's contributions and wish him all the best in his retirement in Bari.

If you would like to express your appreciation of Fr. Joe's service directly to him, you can reach him at:

Centro Anziani Don Guanella  
Attn: Fr. Joseph Rinaldo  
Via Giulio Petroni, 121  
70124 Bari BA, Italy





# ST. LOUIS CENTER By the Numbers

## 2022 Audited Financials\*

*St. Louis Center's financial statements  
for the fiscal year July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022*

### Support & Revenue 2022

Program Service Revenue	\$2,699,951
Fundraising & Grants	\$2,356,512
Other	\$307,417
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>\$5,333,880</b>

### Expenses 2022

Program Services	\$4,342,619
Management & General	\$866,213
Fundraising Projects	\$563,527
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$5,772,359**</b>

Depreciation	\$559,912
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<b>Grand Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,332,271</b>
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<b>Benevolent Care Provided</b>	<b>\$3,354,903</b>
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\*Figures are based on audited financial statements and do not include Legacy donations or expenses.

\*\*St. Louis Center relies on limited cash reserves to cover expense increases in excess of public reimbursement.



## people served

2022 Resident Demographics as of December 31, 2022

**58** residents

**43** male  
**15** female

### ethnicity

49 were Caucasian, 7 were African-American, and 2 were Latino.\*

**84%** | Caucasian

**13%** | African-American

**3%** | Latino

\*56 reported as non-Hispanic or Latino

### age

**18-21** years old

**2** male  
**2** female

**22-40** years old

**20** male  
**0** female

**41-65** years old

**17** male  
**12** female

**66-85** years old

**4** male  
**1** female

### changes

**2** admitted  
**1** discharged

### counties of origin

- 1 geneesee
- 2 ingham
- 5 jackson
- 1 kent
- 2 livingston
- 2 macomb
- 1 marquette
- 2 oakland
- 1 saginaw
- 1 van buren
- 19 washtenaw
- 20 wayne
- 1 out of state



St. Louis Center residents and staff had a great time in the Chelsea Fair Parade.





# COMMUNITY Connection

*Living in a vibrant city full of opportunities is a real blessing for the residents of St. Louis Center.*

Being part of the Chelsea community is essential for the residents. It provides them with a sense of belonging, purpose, and fulfillment, promoting self-esteem and confidence, which are vital for overall well-being. Through community involvement, individuals with I/DD can develop friendships and contribute to a greater purpose, while the community can benefit from their unique strengths and abilities.

Their involvement promotes inclusion and diversity while contributing to the well-being of the community. Through community involvement, they also become more independent and responsible, learning valuable life skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and decision-making.



Lee and Ken had a great time at the Trunk or Treat with Ken's sister Linda.

## St. Louis Center Vision

St. Louis Center will be a leader in providing innovative and comprehensive services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, all of whom enjoy the fullness of life in an integrated and thriving community.



Sherri Rizzo and her therapy dog Zeeva visited the residents during an Aktion Club meeting at St. Louis Center.



Linda helps to deliver Meals on Wheels.



Mike, Lee, Michelle Mikolajczyk, and Stanley greeted passersby at the Sights and Sounds event.



# RANDAZZO FAMILY: Combining Conviviality with Kindness

*In 2022, the Randazzo Family presented the 7th annual Men's Social Fundraiser to benefit St. Louis Center at the "Best Fundraiser you'll ever attend".*

Hosted by Randazzo Fresh Market, the evening includes gourmet food, craft beers, wine and liquor, cigars, music, and a showing of the night's NFL game. It's a great night of fellowship, food, and football!

This event came about as the result of a conversation during the fall of 2014 when Fr. Enzo Addari met Nino Randazzo at a fundraising event in Macomb County. Nino promised to help St. Louis Center with a fundraiser held by Randazzo Fresh Market.

Six months later Mr. Randazzo kept his word, and on April 23, 2015, a large fundraising event was held under a tent behind Randazzo's Fresh Market on

Hayes Rd. in Macomb Twp. The event was titled, "A Men's Social Fundraiser," and nearly 200 people were in attendance. It provided a great opportunity for Fr. Enzo to promote St. Louis Center and a significant amount of money and good will were raised to support the program's operations.

St. Louis Center is very grateful to the Randazzo family and for Randazzo's Fresh Market commitment to help St. Louis Center with this wonderful annual event. Such sustained community support is essential for the continued success of the Center in helping vulnerable individuals live good lives.



Fr. Enzo was pleased to see Mike Chirco and Mike Biondo at the 2022 event.



Nino and Sonny Randazzo with Fr. Enzo at the first Men's Social in 2015.

**"We had a blast hosting the event and I can't believe how much fun we had. It's such a good cause to work for, and we're happy to help Fr. Enzo and the special residents of St. Louis Center who need our help to continue to live a good life."**

-Sonny Randazzo



# ALHAMBRA: Making Summer Dreams Come True

*The Center has been fortunate to have the unwavering support of the International Order of Alhambra for several decades. This organization has been dedicated to helping individuals with I/DD since its inception in 1904.*

In the early years of the Center, Alhambra provided both financial and fraternal support, and this partnership continues to flourish.

One of the most significant contributions of Alhambra was in the 1970s when they played a pivotal role in the construction of the chapel, which is still in use today. Alhambra's assistance, however, has not been limited to financial contributions. They have also been actively involved in providing various activities and social opportunities for the residents both on and off campus.

In addition to supporting St. Louis Center, Alhambra has also helped fund St. Francis Camp on the Lake, where people with disabilities get to enjoy a summer camp on the shore of a peaceful lake in the Irish Hills area. In August 2022, eleven residents of the Center enjoyed a week at camp.

Many individual members of Alhambra have become benefactors and attend St. Louis Center events. The organization's continued dedication and support have made a significant impact on the residents of St. Louis Center, and they are grateful for the ongoing partnership.

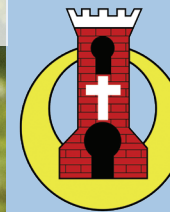


Alhambra members support Center events such as Golf and Glory, getting the opportunity to meet George Blaha.



Jacqui and her roommates enjoyed outdoor living at St. Francis Camp.

## Ways Alhambra Helps



*Alhambra is a fraternal organization that focuses on promoting Christian values and supporting people with developmental disabilities and their families. Some of the ways they help people with disabilities include:*

- Financial support to organizations that serve people with I/DD
- Funding research into causes and treatments of I/DD
- Advocating for policies and programs that benefit people with I/DD
- Community outreach programs that promote awareness of developmental disabilities
- Funding scholarships for students undertaking special education courses



# VOLUNTEERS In Action

*St. Louis Center is a welcoming community that values and relies on the support of its volunteers. Volunteers play an essential role in enhancing the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who call the Center their home.*

Whether they participate in various events or volunteer their time and skills for various endeavors at the Center, volunteers create a sense of community and togetherness that helps individuals feel supported and connected.

The Center welcomes volunteers from all backgrounds and encourages them to get involved in various ways. Whether they want to share their expertise or just lend a helping hand, there are many opportunities for volunteers to make a difference. They can assist with daily activities, help with fundraising efforts, or provide specialized services.

Volunteering at the Center is not just about giving back to the community; it is also a rewarding experience for the volunteers themselves. They get to work with individuals with special needs and develop meaningful relationships with them. Volunteers also have the opportunity to learn from and be inspired by individuals who face challenges every day with resilience and grace.

The impact of volunteering at St. Louis Center extends beyond the volunteers and beneficiaries. Volunteering creates a ripple effect that positively impacts the entire community. It helps break down barriers and promotes understanding and inclusivity. By volunteering, individuals can make a difference in the lives of those around them and create a more compassionate and supportive community.



## GOLF & GLORY COMMITTEE

Alan Augustine  
 Alan Bilinski  
 Norm Neuman  
 Fr. Enzo Addari  
 Brian Bowman  
 Evelyn Bowman  
 Kathy Frisinger  
 Paul Frisinger  
 Larry Grabowski  
 Cindy Lesser  
 Michelle Mikolajczyk  
 Kathi Neuman  
 Tom Nowatzke  
 Mike Roddy  
 Kenneth Unterbrink  
 Joseph Yekulis  
 Pat Zangara  
 Wendy Zielen



## FALL HARVEST DINNER COMMITTEE

Georgia Scappaticci  
 Fr. Enzo Addari  
 Sandy Pulice  
 Gino Fortuna  
 Maria Kraska  
 Angela Kelley  
 Mary Minni  
 Patricia Thull O'Brien  
 John Palmer  
 Alice Rotondo  
 Angelina Scappaticci  
 Felicia Scappaticci

## FALL AUCTION COMMITTEE

Kathi Neuman  
 Eileen Augustine  
 Barbara Boylan-Lewis  
 Jennifer Bell  
 Cathy Bilinski  
 Evelyn Bowman  
 John Budinger  
 Traci Fletcher  
 Annette Houle  
 Donna Hrozencik, M.D.  
 Terri Jobkar  
 Cindy Lesser  
 Angie Merkel  
 Tina Chavez-Merkel  
 Michelle Mikolajczyk  
 Linda Recca  
 Wendy Zielen

## MEMORIAL GOLF VOLUNTEERS

Joe Yekulis  
 Fr. Enzo Addari  
 Jane Black  
 Barb Duca  
 Chuck Duca  
 Linda Dyer  
 Tom Dyer  
 Amy Fielder  
 Kelly Flaherty  
 Ken Hennessy  
 Cindy Lesser  
 Al Letizio  
 Angie Merkel  
 Michelle Mikolajczyk  
 Kim Peoples  
 Don Rankin  
 Linda Recca  
 Cindy Samoray  
 Kim Tapping





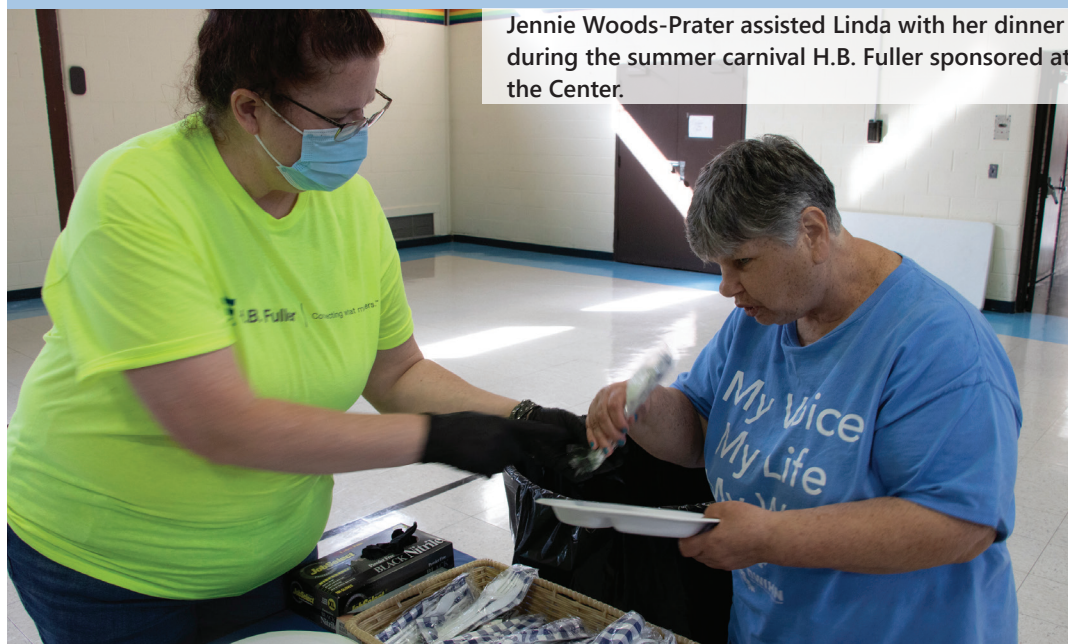


Cassandra Kennedy of American Heritage Girls Troop 3498 completed her Stars and Stripes award by building 3 tiny libraries for St. Louis Center. Stanley was happy to add some books.



“When our Community Action Committee group visits the residents of St. Louis Center....I know my heart will be filled. Our interactions are so fulfilling and rewarding. It is obvious just by the joy on their faces.”

-Jennie Woods-Prater,  
H.B. Fuller staff member



Jennie Woods-Prater assisted Linda with her dinner during the summer carnival H.B. Fuller sponsored at the Center.

## 2023 EVENTS

### **Paesano Dinner**

June 25, 2023

Paesano - Ann Arbor MI

### **Golf and Glory**

June 26, 2023

UofM Golf Course - Ann Arbor MI

### **Italian American Delegates Outing**

July 10, 2023

Twin Lakes Golf and Swim Club - Oakland MI

### **Memorial Golf Outing**

July 15, 2023

Pierce Lake Golf Course - Chelsea MI

### **Dad and Lad**

August 2, 2023

Twin Lakes Golf and Swim Club - Oakland MI

### **Randazzo Men's Social**

September 21, 2023

Randazzo Fresh Food Market - Clinton Twp. MI

### **Fall Harvest Dinner**

September 24, 2023

Italian American Banquet Center - Livonia MI

### **Trunk or Treat**

October 25, 2023

St. Louis Center - Chelsea MI

### **Fall Dinner Auction**

October 28, 2023

St. Mary Parish - Chelsea MI

For more information,  
please visit our website:

[www.stlouiscenter.org](http://www.stlouiscenter.org)



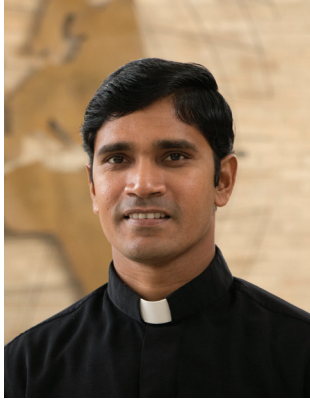


## FR. AMAL: A Sense of Community

*For those who are living in care homes, having a sense of community and belonging is important for their overall well-being. It is about meeting their physical needs and about attending to their emotional and spiritual needs. This is where the role of a Spiritual Animator becomes crucial in care homes.*

Fr. Amal Rayapillai is the Spiritual Animator for St. Louis Center, defined by St. Louis Guanella as the 'pastor of the center' with the mission to serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in an intentional faith-based community.

Building on the Christian tradition and the spirituality of St. Louis Guanella, Fr. Amal engages the residents to prepare and participate in activities and events according to the season, taking into account their various abilities and



with respect to the cultural and religious backgrounds of the individual and his/her family. It is the right of people with I/DD to know God.

In collaboration with the Center's activity coordinator and programs personnel, Fr. Amal helps guide all around him to fulfill the vision that everyone enjoy the fullness of life in an integrated and thriving community.

As part of his duties, Fr. Amal trains the staff with Guanellian values underlining why it is special working at St. Louis Center and how we love and care for our residents at their homes.



Fr. Amal leads the residents in weekly devotions

Fr. Amal and Keaven joyfully anticipated Keavan's performance at the Christmas program.



### St. Louis Center Values

*Building on our Christian tradition and the spirituality of St. Louis Guanella, with attention to the needs and signs of our times, we value:*

- Loving those we serve with a generous heart
- Promoting the God-given dignity of each person
- Encouraging self-determination, spiritual growth, and community integration
- Serving joyfully with respect, compassion, and hope
- Working for justice, especially for those most in need



# WAYS TO SUPPORT

## Make a Gift Now



**Write a Check or Give Online** – It is the most common and simple way to give.

**Retirement Distribution** – Donations made directly from your retirement fund are not counted as taxable income, saving you money at tax time. Learn more about rolling over your IRA by scanning the code or by visiting our website: <https://stlouiscenter.org/give-here/iras/>



**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.

## Planned Giving

**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 changing 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.



Learn more on our website <https://stlouiscenter.org/give-here/planned-giving/> or scan the code.

## 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!

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

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## Monthly Sustainers

*Help build a lighthouse of hope by becoming a Monthly Sustainer.*

Did you know... You can support St. Louis Center with a Recurring Gift of any amount. Spread out your giving into monthly payments and ensure that the residents at the Center have the continued support and care they need each day



**\$75/month provides residents like Albert clean drinking water.**

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 past two years have made the need to provide benevolent care even more poignant.



The total cost of care for a person living at St. Louis Center averages \$10,000 a month. A social security supplement (SSI/A) covers only room and board, which is about 18% of the total. Some residents benefit from a Medicaid waiver program. Many residents do not receive this governmental benefit.

**According to the 2022 audit, St. Louis Center administrative and overhead expenses were only 23%, in line with well-managed nonprofit best practices. You can be confident that your donation to the Center is going to good use.**

## Contact

To discuss gifts of any kind, contact Wendy Zielen in the development office at 734-475-8430 or [wzielen@stlouiscenter.org](mailto:wzielen@stlouiscenter.org).





# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS In Action

*For many years, St. Louis Center has been blessed by the many Knights of Columbus councils throughout the State of Michigan.*



The Knights have been steady supporters of the mission since the beginning. From donations of both money and time, to events and outings, these men put effort into making a difference in the lives of the people who call St. Louis Center home.

For a long time, members of the Knights of Columbus from Our Lady of Fatima have offered support to St. Louis Center residents. Aside from financial support from the annual Tootsie Roll Drive, this faithful group has hosted on-site fish fries, pancake breakfasts, and picnics.

In addition to the activities by their own Council, they participate with Jackson area Knights to create memorable Christmases during the holiday season. In March each year the Fourth Degree Knights assist with a special prom held at Our Lady of Fatima that offers people with disabilities a night for dinner and dancing.

In the last 10 years alone, the Knights of Columbus, both the State and individual Councils, have donated over \$1.7 million to St. Louis Center.



The residents enjoyed eating breakfast and decorating pumpkins with Fatima Knights.



# HOME AT LAST

## Thomas Schumacher

**1941-2022**

*was born to Stephen and Stephanie Schumacher on September 5, 1941, in Detroit, Michigan. He attended the Lenox Center for years with other young adults with disabilities. After his parents passed away, he moved to the Lansing area and was cared for by his sister, Dorothy Thompson. Tom also lived in Ann Arbor for several years. Once he "retired," he attended an adult day program called The Oaks.*

*In 2018, Tom moved to St. Louis Center where he resided for the last four years. He enjoyed the activities, shared meals, programs, attended Mass, and did volunteer work with a program through Community Mental Health. He was very relaxed and comfortable after finding his home at the Center.*







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