



A word from our Board President...

Dear Friends of the Village of Progress,

I have served as a member of the Board of Directors for nearly three years and this last year was appointed as the President of the Board. I have served on many boards and in numerous volunteer positions in the past, but I have seldom seen an organization as healthy, focused and dedicated to their cause as the Village of Progress.

The administrative staff and the boards of both the Village and the Foundation are progressive and forward thinking. They not only seek to better meet the needs of the men and women who attend the Village but also plan for the future of the Village and its programs. This is evidenced by a number of happenings in this very busy past year:

- ◆ A beneficial first in the history of the Village, the board of directors held an off-site, day long board retreat that helped us plan for the long-term viability of the Village.
- ◆ The Attendance Grant Program continues to grow in support and size.
- ◆ The Village recently launched a pilot project with music therapy.
- ◆ We've just embarked on one of the most exciting programs in the history of the Village with the start up of The Village Bakery.
- ◆ Finally, we saw a very successful community event and fund raiser in the Tour of Scenic Ogle County (TOSOC) bicycle event last month. While we originally hoped for 100 participants we realized over three times that participation with 325 riders!

While significant, these events are only a fraction of the great things that happen day in and day out by our dedicated and caring staff at the Village of Progress. I am truly blessed to be a part of this amazing organization as we celebrate past achievements and a vision for the future.

Best regards,

Jeff

Jeffrey E. Glen
President, Village of Progress Board of Directors

VILLAGE OF PROGRESS, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President

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DIRK MEMINGER
Treasurer

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VILLAGE OF PROGRESS STAFF

Administrative:

BRION BROOKS
Executive Director

BOB GLASER
Director of Special Projects

DENNY ARJES
Village Cleaning Service Manager

DAVE BAKENER
Accountant

SHERRI EGAN
Community Relations &
Development

JACKIE FRANSEN
Bakery Manager

KAREN KEREVEN
Production Manager

DONNA MATTISON
Program Manager

MARLA ROZEBOOM
Social Services Coordinator

Direct Care:

JESSICA ARMBRUSTER
Registered Nurse &
Safety Director

CINDY BARNHART
Production Supervisor

ELLEN LAURENT
Registered Nurse & Safety Officer

ANGIE MARTIN-BAKENER
Residential Liaison & Supervisor

NATE MATTISON
Production Supervisor

SHIRLEY MCPHILLIPS
Supervisor

DEANNE MUNHOLLON
Production Supervisor

DENNY MUMFORD
Special Olympics Coach &
Supervisor

MARY RICK
Evaluator and Educator

CATHY SNYDER
Production Supervisor

DAWN TODD
Special Olympics Coach &
Supervisor

BRYAN WATSON
Production Supervisor

ALEX WOODWORTH
Supervisor

Support:

LISA BOEHLE
Bookkeeper

MARY KRUG
Route Driver

PAM LOTZ
Executive Secretary

DEB MUMFORD
Cook & Supervisor

FELIPE RODRIGUEZ
Route Driver & Supervisor

DEB SETTLES
Route Driver & Supervisor

LOUIE WEHMHOEFER
Village Cleaning Supervisor

AMBER WRIGHT
Route Driver

ROD YOUNG
Village Cleaning Supervisor

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VILLAGE OF PROGRESS



Village of Progress, Inc. Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report

Celebrating 47 years of service to those of Ogle County who have a disability.

Thank you to: Cedar Siding, Inc., Design Enhanced Manufacturing Company, Inc., FN Smith Corporation, & Rochelle Community Hospital who contributed money specifically for this report.

VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

Life is like a bicycle, to keep your balance you must keep moving” – Albert Einstein

The Village of Progress is moving forward. This past year has seen a number of exciting changes and expansions.

In August of last year we added a **community development and community relations coordinator** to our staff. This has proven key in our efforts to more effectively spread the word about the good work we do here at the Village.

This past year we’ve increased our emphasis on the **Attendance Grant Program**. Attendance Grants are awarded to men and women in Ogle County who are eligible to attend the Village of Progress but can’t do so because the State lacks money to fund them. Statewide, over 27,000 people with disabilities are not receiving the funding they’re otherwise entitled to.

Through raising awareness of this situation over the past two years, our ability to extend help has increased dramatically. When Attendance Grants started in the fall of 2014, we were able to help four recipients attend the Village part time. Last year, that number was increased to seven. This year, we’re privileged to provide funding to 14 eligible men and women. We anticipate that number to grow even higher in the coming year. There is still ample need in the community.



This summer we dedicated the **Jake Burke Memorial Basketball Court**. Jake loved basketball and was an enthusiastic supporter of the Village. Jake’s parents approached the Village seeking to use his memorial fund to help with Special Olympics. And so was born the outdoor practice court which bears Jake’s name. The court was made possible through a combination of the memorial fund and private donations of cash, talent, and time. A real testimony to Jake’s life and the support of the community.

Last month we launched our first bicycle fundraiser – **TOSOC** (Tour of Scenic Ogle County). Over 300 cyclists of all ages gathered at the Village of Progress to tour some of Ogle County’s most scenic roads. We were amazed at the turnout. And while people had a great time, they helped us net over \$11,000 to support the Village’s Attendance Grant Program.

One of the most satisfying things about TOSOC is that, while it was a fundraiser for the Village of Progress, it also was able to benefit the community. Cyclists from as far away as Michigan, Indiana, Missouri, Wisconsin – even Texas – got to glimpse the beautiful scenery and friendly people who make up Ogle County. With the tremendous encouragement we received, TOSOC will become an annual event.



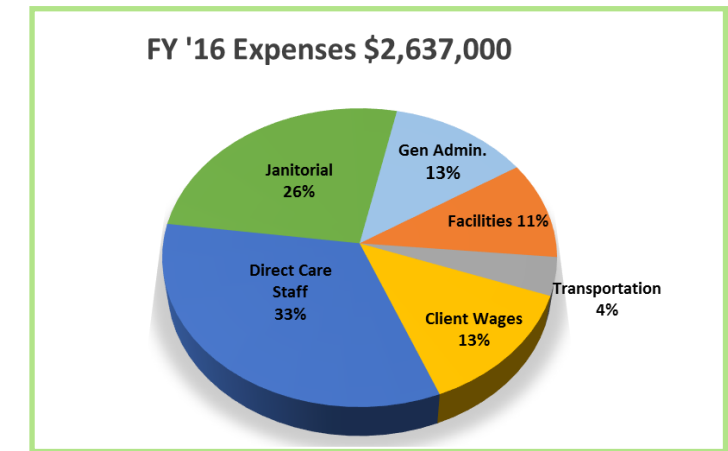
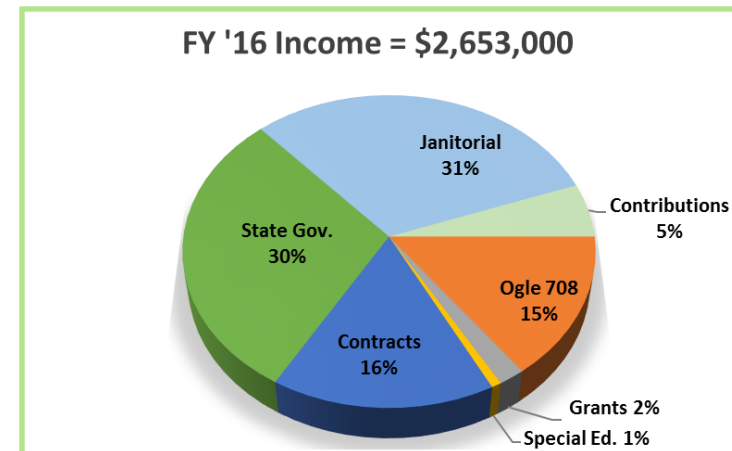
Finally, later this year we’ll be opening **The Village Bakery**, a retail bakery and coffee shop located on the corner of 3rd St. and Washington. The Bakery’s mission is to provide integrated employment where people with disabilities work shoulder-to-shoulder with the rest of the bakery staff. With a \$300,000-\$400,000 price tag, the Village Bakery is a major undertaking. But if it works, the dividends – providing men and women with disabilities the skills and confidence to enter the workforce – will be worth it.



Despite our accomplishments, the Village faces unprecedented headwinds. United Cerebral Palsy ranks Illinois as 48th among the 50 states for services to people with developmental disabilities. Even among the Great Lakes states, Illinois ranks dead last in per capita spending on disabilities services (\$44 per person in Illinois, compared to an average of over \$130 per person in the neighboring states). This poor ranking is reflected in many tangible ways. It’s now been nine years since Illinois has increased funding for service providers. All the while, the cost of services has increased 13%.

Locally, Ogle County – traditionally a strong supporter of services to those with mental illness and disabilities – cut 708 Mental Health funding by almost 10% this year. A move that’s inexplicable considering that 708 funding is a separate tax initiative that has zero impact on the County’s budget. Continually, social service organizations such as the Village are being asked to do more with less funds. That trend cannot last indefinitely. The Village of Progress, like all service organizations, is like a man on a bicycle. It doesn’t have the luxury of staying still. Despite the forces that would hold us back, we are determined to move forward, to keep our balance, and deliver excellent services to the people of Ogle County.

We are excited about what we’ve accomplished over the past 47 years. And we’re just as excited about what the future holds.



Thanks for caring about the people that we serve.

