

It's an honor to write to you as the Village of Progress' newest board president. In the four years since joining the board, I've learned and experienced so much.

The Village's Values statement says, in part, "We believe that interaction with the community, even one person at a time, has value in changing perceptions about those with developmental disabilities."

This whole-heartedly reflects the level of importance the Village places on intentional integration — both for people with disabilities and for the community as a whole.

Over the past several years, I've seen the Village put a strong focus on creating opportunities for both work and play outside the walls of our building.

Our work programs have increasingly had the good fortune of being invited into community businesses so our individuals can be part of the regular work force. Our social programs are also designed to bring the community into a closer relationship with the men and women of the Village.

As we head into 2025, the Village is excited to take that integration to the next level.

This spring, we're launching a joint venture with Kreider Services called Hill Street Neighborhood in Mount Morris. This will be comprised of 12 duplexes housing 24-30 residents. What makes this project special is that it's designed so that half of the residents will be individuals with disabilities and the other half families simply looking for affordable housing.

We are looking forward to completing the project in the summer of 2026. Creating a neighborhood where people with disabilities can experience a high level of interdependence and integration, Hill Street Neighborhood may be among the first of its kind in the US, certainly in Illinois.

This is just one more example of the Village's belief that an integrated community is a stronger, healthier, and more compassionate community. And doesn't that benefit us all?

Thank you,

April

April Glosser

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Executive Director

DAVE BAKENER
Accountant

SHERRI SAMSEL EGAN
Assistant Director

KAREN KEREVEN
Production Manager

ANGIE MARTIN-BAKENER
Manager of QIDP Services

DONNA MATTISON
Program Manager

The Village Bakery:

AMBER FERGE
Barista
DEB PONTNACK
Barista
SARA ZELLERS
Bakery Manager

Village Cleaning Service:

GIANNA FULTON
Cleaning Service Manager

Direct Care:

CASSIE CHAPMAN
QIDP

MARIAN CROPP
Supervisor

NIKI HUNT
Registered Nurse

DENNY MUMFORD
Route Driver & Supervisor

MARK PROBASCO
QIDP

FELIPE RODRIGUEZ
Route Driver & Supervisor

SAVANNAH ROSENBAUM
Route Driver & Supervisor

CATHY SNYDER
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ERIC SUNDVALL
Route Driver & Supervisor

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LYNDA WADE
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Maintenance Supervisor

LISA BOEHLE
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DEANNE MUNHOLLON
Head of Transportation & Assistant Bookkeeper

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LIZ BROOKS
CASSIE CHAPMAN
TOM FELKER
AMY HENKEL
ANGIE MARTIN-BAKENER
DONNA MATTISON
ASHLEY MORENO
MARK PROBASCO
TERRY SCHUSTER
LINDA WILLS

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VILLAGE OF PROGRESS



Village of Progress, Inc. Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Report

Celebrating 55 years of service to those of Ogle County who have a disability.

The Village has two guiding lights... First, does it encourage our men and women to explore the community? Second, does it offer people in the community a chance to interact with our men and women?



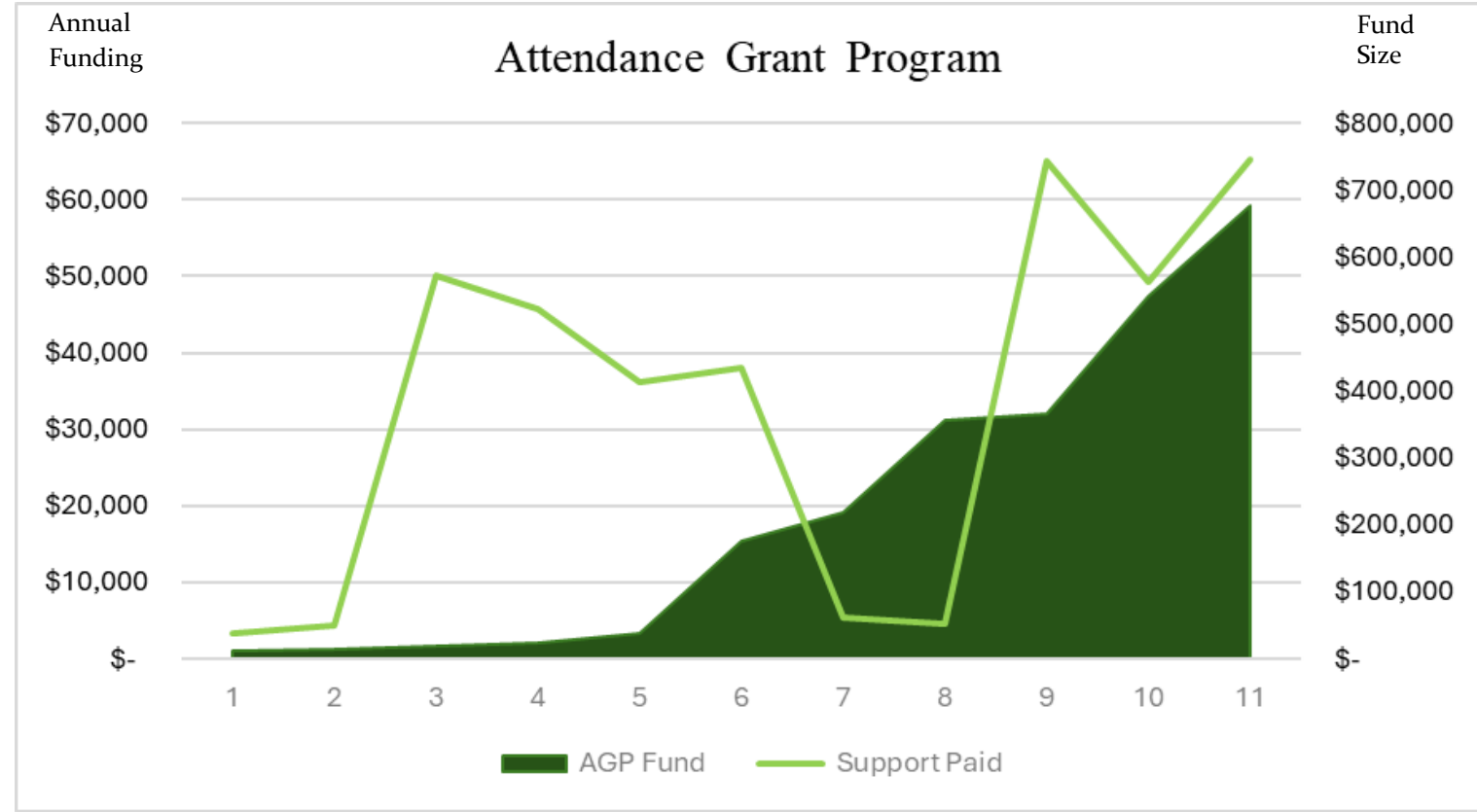
VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the Village of Progress Foundation's Attendance Grant Program (AGP).

The AGP was created in the summer of 2014 when the Village saw that students graduating from special education were facing a huge obstacle. Many parents of children with special needs believe that when their child turns 22 the state will automatically continue to provide funding for local services (like attending the Village of Progress), just like the state did in school. Those same parents are dismayed to learn that, instead, Illinois puts their child on a waiting list for such services.

They're further surprised to learn that their child could be on the waiting list for 7-10 years. Until then, the State will not pay for them to receive services.

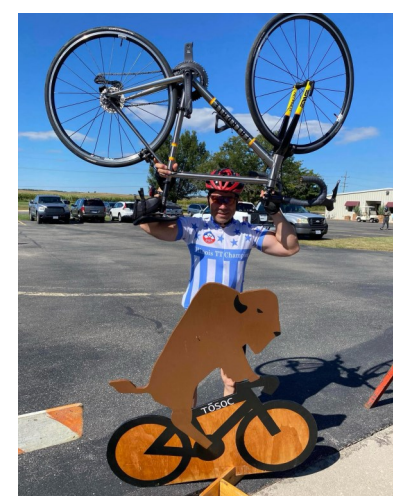
Without state funding, most individuals with developmental disabilities cannot afford to attend day services programs, which can cost upwards of \$2,000 a month. In the meantime, many on the waiting list had no prospects for vocational training or even social interaction. Many would simply stay isolated at home.



This is what gave rise to the Attendance Grant Program, a unique benefit provided only by the Village of Progress. Through this program, individuals who are on the State's waiting list are allowed to attend the Village on a part-time basis. Essentially, the Foundation steps in and pays the state hourly attendance rate on an individual's behalf until they're pulled from the states' list.

Even daily transportation to and from the Village is included as part of the Attendance Grant.

Since its inception, seeded with a grant of \$12,000 from the Lawrence



Foundation, the Attendance Grant Fund has grown to over \$676,600. This is thanks to other generous gifts from the community, estate bequests, and the proceeds from our fundraisers like the John Herrmann Golf Play Day and the TOSOC Bike Ride.

Over those same 10 years, the Foundation has provided over 15 individuals with 23,000 hours of services at the Village of Progress, at a value of over \$350,000 in services. Even now, some of those who joined the AGP at its inception are still on the state's waiting list.



There may come a day when the state funds disability services at a level that matches the need. Until then, however, the Village of Progress will do everything in its power to assure that all Ogle County individuals with developmental disabilities can live active lives in a supportive community.

