

Board of Directors,

Here are a few highlights over the past month:

- Since my last report, Marklund has received only **\$15K** from the State of Illinois. Our aging for Residential and Developmental Training, through August 31, stands at \$5.4M; this is almost \$1.5M more than last month. From a historical perspective, this is not unusual. We are monitoring this very closely to see if the State, now that they finally passed a budget, will be going back to the usual 120 day cycle. We currently have \$3.3M of our line of credit available.
- Thank you for the GREAT turnout for the Board Retreat. It seemed like everyone liked the more open format. I want to thank the following who carved a day out of their busy schedules to attend: **Jim Armbruster, Jeff Blanchette, Howard Brandeisky, Carie Carney, Maria Dombrowski, Carol Donahue, Gerry Estes, Duane Fitch, Dan Foley, Mike Herlihy, Brian Little, Frank Murnane, Jr.** (had a funeral to attend but made it to the Executive Committee), **Jeff Risch**, and **George Webster**.
- The wheels of the State turn very slowly but they finally came up with the distribution mechanism “rule” so that they could pass on the **75 cent/hour** pay raise that was approved as of July 1; the increase for the direct care staff was part of the **FY18 State Budget**. We are continuing to determine exactly “who” the State is defining as “direct care” but hope to be able to pass it on to the staff very soon.
- Congratulations to **George and Jeanne Webster** who have were unanimously approved by the Board as Marklund’s **2018 Friend of the Year!** The well-deserved honor will presented to them during Top Hat on February 3 at the brand new Marriott Marquis at McCormick Place.
- Congratulations to **Jeff Risch** who was recently named one of *The Best Lawyers in America 2018*. I want to also congratulate **Brian Little** who was interviewed last month by a prominent human resources publication for the “industry accolades [he has received] for his groundbreaking management training initiatives at global insurer Zurich.” I so appreciate the many talented board members that we are blessed to have at Marklund.
- The **FY18 Calendar of Events** is attached. All of the board events that are underlined should already be in your Outlook calendar. I encourage you to attend as many of the events as your personal/professional calendar allows. I have also attached the new procedure for accessing the **Board Portal** on the Marklund website.
- Here is the final **Board date** for **2017: October 26**; and the **dates for 2018: January 25, April 5, May 24** (Finance only), **June 28, August 17** (Board retreat) and **October 25**. You should have Outlook invitations for all of these dates.

It is a very busy September. I look forward to seeing many of you at one or more of the following:

- **Pancake Breakfast** – Hyde Center, Geneva – Saturday, Sept 16 – 8:30 am – Noon
- **Angel Songs Soiree** – Sanfilippo Estate, Barrington – Saturday, Sept 23 – 6 – 10 pm
- **Donor Appreciation Event** – Aspen Lane Wine Company, Aurora – Thursday, Sept 28 – 6 – 8 pm

We are grateful for ALL you do to advance our mission to...*make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities.*

God bless you!

Gil

GILBERT FONGER
President & CEO



Making everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities

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