



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I wanted to share the awesome news about Little Angels Center for Exceptional Care.

As you are aware, since February we have been in merger discussions with **Little Angels Center for Exceptional Care** in Elgin. The Marklund Board of Directors voted UNANIMOUSLY last night to join with Little Angels.

Little Angels has a history that is very similar to Marklund. They were founded in 1958 (Marklund in 1954) by Pat Wasmond and her husband who were asked to take in an infant with developmental disabilities. Marklund was founded by Claire Haverkamp and her husband who were asked to take in an infant, Mark William Lund, as our first client.

Little Angels currently serves 57-clients with severe/profound developmental disabilities at the same level as those we serve at MPC in Bloomingdale. They have a staff of 118 which will bring Marklund to almost 450 staff in total. The new center will be called the **Marklund Wasmond Center (MWC)**.

We are currently in the planning stages to add two classrooms to serve children with multi-needs and create a Marklund Day School – West campus. The new classrooms will serve up to an additional 20 students.

Please read the following quote from their Executive Director, Shelley Lewis whose hard work, compassion, and dedication helped make this possible:

“Little Angels has always been a labor of love for the entire Wasmond Family,” said Shelley Lewis, longtime executive director of Little Angels, whose parents founded that organization. “Of utmost importance to us is that we carry on my mother’s legacy of providing care and support to children and young adults with profound disabilities and complex medical needs in a place that feels like home. My family and our dedicated staff have **entrusted this legacy to Marklund who shares a very similar history and passion for caring. Joining the Marklund Family feels very much like home to us and we are excited about what the future holds.**”

The merger will become effective as of **Tuesday, November 1**. We are grateful that Shelley Lewis will be continuing as the administrator of MWC. As of Tuesday, Marklund will serve a total of 174 clients (24/7), 55 students and 14 day clients. Thank you for all you do to fulfill our mission to...*make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities.*

Sincerely,

Gunjan Patel Administrator Marklund Philip Center