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Claire Haverkamp (1916-1997)

*"Claire was one of the purest and most lovable persons we have ever had the privilege to know. In the early years following Mark's birth, her and Stan's dedication, vision and hope helped us through a traumatic period of confusion and doubt. Their dream of building a home to help the handicapped infant and their parents at a critical time was without precedent back then in 1954."*

John Lund, father of Mark William Lund,  
our first resident, speaking of Marklund founder Claire Haverkamp

## Marklund Employee of the Year: Melanie Marion

Melanie "Mel" Marion, Marklund Physical Therapist Assistant who works at all of the Marklund campuses, received this year's Claire Haverkamp Commemorative Award at a special recognition event held in late summer. She was one of three finalists that also included Babatunde Adekoya, a Personal Support Professional from the Marklund Hyde Center, and Tami Kraus, a Lead Nurse from the Wasmond Center.

As she accepted the award, she humbly noted: "Not only do I get to make everyday life possible for residents here, but all of you and the residents make everyday life possible for me."

Mel started at Marklund in 2006 as a CNA. She won over the hearts of all the residents at Marklund Hyde Center with her quick wit and dedication to their quality of life. A graduate of Fox College's Physical Therapy Assistant School, she recently received her Certification in Early Intervention from the University of Illinois.

In announcing the winner, Frank Murnane Jr., Chair of the Marklund Board of Directors, read comments from nominations submitted by Marklund employees:

- "Mel is an expert on positioning, using therapy equipment, and developing creative adaptations to assist residents in gaining their independence."
- "Mel knows every single resident at all three sites including all students at the Day School. And "knowing them" means not just their names, but their likes, dislikes, and what makes them laugh."

Marklund's current culture evolved from founder Claire Haverkamp's dedication to the children she served starting in 1954. The Claire Haverkamp Award winners, selected by a Board of Directors committee, demonstrates the true spirit of Claire by following Marklund's Guiding Values: **Attitude, Accountability, Creativity, Compassion, and Teamwork.**



Photos feature: President/CEO Gil Fonger, Award Nominees Mel Marion, Babatunde Adekoya, and Tami Kraus, and Marklund Board Chair Frank Murnane Jr.

## Recognizing our Volunteers!

**St. Charles resident Lloyd Parks, is Marklund's 2019 Volunteer of the Year!** He received the award recently during a much-delayed impromptu ceremony held on the ballfield at the Marklund Geneva campus, three months after the postponed-then-cancelled annual Volunteer Recognition Event.

"Lloyd has been a dedicated volunteer for nearly 3 years, helping with resident outings and activities, and our annual Summer Games event at our Geneva campus," said Cathy Nikrandt, Manager of Volunteer Engagement. "To date, Lloyd has volunteered 465 hours over 222 visits."

Marklund temporarily discontinued in-person volunteering in late March with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic so Lloyd was happy to see some of the residents and staff who waved, cheered and held thank you posters on the back patios of the residential buildings, while Lloyd took a socially distant walk around the campus.



**Chapelstreet Church:** We are thrilled to partner with Marklund on your mission!



**Kaneland:** We value our partnership with Marklund very much. We realize that both the smiles of your clients, as well as your staff, that our days on site are appreciated. In turn, what we learn and gain from the experiences carry over to our own work to get students outside their comfort zones, and to put others before themselves.

### ADDITIONAL 2019 SPECIAL VOLUNTEER HONORS

**2019 Event Partner of the Year: Eva Sandor** - Regularly attending and assisting at the Top Hat Ball, the Run, Walk & Roll 5K/1M-Geneva, and the Run, Walk & Roll 5K/1M-Bloomingtondale.

**2019 Hero of the Year: Chapelstreet Church** - offering spiritual support, volunteering at events and providing a generous donation to further the Marklund mission and improve the lives of the residents served.

**2019 Group of the Year - Bloomingtondale: Rau Family** Supporting our Philip Center residents as a family!

**2019 Group of the Year - Elgin: Harvest Christian Academy** - Volunteering at the Wasmond Center and inviting our residents to their basketball games (and letting them join in the opening ceremonies).

**2019 Group of the Year - Geneva: Kaneland High School Cross Country Team** - 10 years of volunteering



**Rau Family**



# Marklund Day School – Re-Opening with Flexible Plans & A New School



*“Marklund Day School is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and staff.”*

Marklund Day School in Bloomingdale, Elgin, and Geneva began the 2020-21 school year operating from a Hybrid Learning Plan that includes both in-person and remote learning days for students within both the Life Skills and Multi-Needs programs.

“The Marklund Day School leadership team spent the majority of the summer reviewing the guidelines and establishing plans to meet the guidelines but also keeping in mind the unique population we serve,” said Paula Bodzioch, Director of Education at Marklund. “Our team created six unique plans to ensure that we meet the needs of all of our day school locations and programs. While our team is implementing a hybrid learning schedule that includes in-person instruction at each of our locations, we are also prepared to switch to a full remote learning schedule, if that is needed.”

## Following New Regulations

The School’s administration established protocols and procedures to maintain a safe environment using guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and local health departments.

### Guidelines include:

- Require use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including face coverings;
- Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space
- Require social distancing be observed, as much as possible;
- Require that schools conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks or require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings;
- Require an increase in school-wide cleaning and disinfection



### To ensure a safe and healthy learning environment, Marklund Day School will:

- Continually review updated guidance from ISBE, IDPH.
- Ensure a high quality E-Learning plan in the event of an immediate transition to remote learning due to illness within a classroom or entire school or due to a state mandate to return to full remote learning.
- Communicate with families, partnering districts, and staff on a regular basis to ensure they remain informed on our plans.
- Encourage students and staff to remain home when sick.

Education Center

## Marklund Opens Foglia Education Center

On July 24th, with the snip of several pairs of scissors, including one very large one, the new Marklund Day School-Geneva officially became the organization’s third school currently in operation! Many staff, donors and local dignitaries gathered for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the 26,000-square-foot school built specifically for children with developmental disabilities and those on the autism spectrum. Named the **Foglia Education Center** for its lead donor, the Foglia Family Foundation, the school will ultimately be able to serve 66 children each year providing very specialized education as well as various therapies and nursing care. Marklund also offers educational services at its Bloomingdale and Elgin sites.



# VIRTUAL

Marklund  
**RUN** 5K/1 MILE  
**WALK**  
**AND ROLL**  
**GENEVA**



[www.marklund.org/5kgeneva](http://www.marklund.org/5kgeneva)  
for full VIRTUAL event details and  
**REGISTRATION**

Tune into all of the event excitement, receive your event gear and stay active all in the comfort of your own area



## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020

2020 Event Hoodie,  
SWAG and Bib

Mailing Option available at checkout!

Hoodies guaranteed to all participants registered before 9/18!

- Top Fundraising Prizes
- Virtual 5K Timing Entry
- Placement Medals and Downloadable Finisher Certificate



Taking steps to make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities.

## Officials Receive Marklund Advocacy Awards

Three suburban elected officials—Illinois State Representatives Keith Wheeler and Anna Moeller and Kane County Board Member Drew Frasz—each received Excellence in Advocacy Awards this summer for their individual efforts over the past year to support various Marklund efforts in its mission to serve children and adults with profound developmental disabilities.



Rep. Moeller (43rd District) received the honor for her dedication to helping Marklund's initiative to build group homes (Community Independent Living Arrangements (CILAs) in the Elgin area.



IL Rep. Keith Wheeler, President/CEO Gil Fonger, and Kane County Board Member Drew Frasz

Marklund recognized Rep. Keith Wheeler (50th District) for his efforts made in support of the Marklund Day School, a nonpublic day school serving children with developmental disabilities, multiple medical needs and those on the autism spectrum. Wheeler became Marklund's voice in Springfield when the Illinois State Board of Education made sudden and highly impactful changes to regulations with regard to students with special needs.

Kane County Board Member Drew Frasz also received special recognition for his efforts in assisting with the development process for Marklund's new Day School in Geneva. Board Member Frasz's support in assisting with Marklund's relationship development with area residents during the early stages of planning for the new school helped move the process to a successful conclusion.

*"We are very grateful for the time and efforts these individuals have put toward our needs to help those we serve,"*  
said Gil Fonger, Marklund President & CEO.



## Meet our Medical Directors

Marklund's Medical Directors' roles and responsibilities include to monitor quality and appropriateness of medical care, serve as medical leadership representatives on designated committees, oversee clinical peer review, develop and approve protocols and procedures, develop and maintain parent/guardian relationships, assist with clinical training, and provide performance guidance and support.

**ALGIMANTAS S. KERPE, M.D.,**  
**Marklund Hyde Center Medical Director.**  
**Specialties**—Internal Medicine.  
**Education**—University of Illinois at Chicago.  
**Residency:** Louis A. Weiss Memorial Hospital.  
**Internship:** University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago.



**Certifications**—American Board of Internal Medicine

Dr. Kerpe is a board-certified internist based in Geneva who has recently taken the position of Medical Director for the Marklund Hyde Center. He has built a strong community connection in the area spanning more than 30 years. In his independent practice, he cares for adults by creating genuine relationships and giving personal attention.

**TODD A. GEPHART, M.D.,**  
**Marklund Wasmond Center Medical Director.**  
**Specialties**—Internal Medicine.  
**Education**—University of Illinois.  
**Residency:** Lutheran General Hospital.  
**Internship:** Lutheran General Hospital.



**Certifications**—American Board of Internal Medicine

Dr. Gephart specializes in Internal Medicine and is part of AMITA Health's network. He is committed to providing quality care that is open, inclusive and compassionate, delivered with dignity and empathy for all. In sickness and in health, Dr. Gephart has been serving residents at the Marklund Wasmond Center for 18 years.

**ASTA ASTRASKAS, MD.,**  
**Marklund Philip Center Medical Director.**  
**Specialties**—Pediatrics.  
**Education**—Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania.  
**Residency:** Albany Medical Center Hospital, New York.



**Certifications**—American Board of Pediatrics

As a pediatrician in the Chicagoland area, Dr. Astraskas is the Chair of Pediatrics at Silver Cross Hospital, and Medical Director for Lurie Children's Hospital Outreach Division of Hospital Based Medicine. In practice for more than 20 years, she has been serving the residents at the Philip Center for nine years.

## A Thank You Note!



Friends and family of Marklund Wasmond Center joined together this spring and summer to raise \$23,000 to help refurbish the rooms of 12 residents through our "Project Sweet Dreams: Bedroom Makeover, Part 2!" (Last year, several other rooms received a makeover thanks to Project Sweet Dreams, Part 1!)

**A big thank you to all who contributed, as well as to Fisher Nuts who provided a \$2,500 matching gift opportunity!**

An extra sweet note: Wasmond resident DJ and his mom created a personal goal for the Sweet Dreams project through a Facebook fundraiser held in conjunction with his 39th birthday. When he reached his 39th LIKE and DONATION on the page, he donated gift cards to a local food bank as a way to give back during this time!

*Stay tuned for next year's summer project!*

## Stay Tuned for Top Hat Ball news.

*To comply with guidelines set by the state of Illinois and the CDC due to the pandemic, we are excited to announce we are working on new designs for the 2021 Top Hat Ball. We enjoy bringing all of our friends together in support of Marklund at our signature fundraising event, but want to keep everyone as safe as possible.*

***Watch for a Top Hat Ball announcement later this fall! #MarklundStrong***

# A Letter from Marklund's President/CEO



Who could have predicted how much the world has changed since the beginning of the pandemic in mid-March. Things that we took for granted like going to school, visiting with family and friends, attending church, and going out to eat or shop have taken on a new sense of appreciation. Who even knew what a ZOOM meeting or N95 mask was?

At Marklund, we have gone from well over a hundred volunteers a week working with our residents to zero. Only outdoor visitation by parents and guardians is currently allowed. We cannot take our residents on outings. Staff are tested daily for potential symptoms and wear personal protective equipment constantly. It is a very different world.

We have been blessed to only have one resident and six staff test positive for COVID-19 since mid-March; all recovered without hospitalization. The resilience of our staff and residents has been inspiring. Despite all of the challenges, the staff has been nothing less than HEROIC and I could not be prouder of their dedication and professionalism.

We still have a ways to go before we are back to whatever the "new normal" will look like but we continue to be committed to our promise to *make everyday life possible for individual with profound disabilities.*

Sincerely,  
Gil Fonger, President/CEO

## OUR LOCATIONS

### MARKLUND HYDE CENTER & SCHOOL

1S450 Wyatt Drive  
Geneva, Illinois 60134  
Phone: 630.593.5500  
Fax: 630.593.5501

Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) for adults. 25-acre campus includes **Six 16-bed Residential Homes**, Community Day Services, on-site heated aquatic therapy pool, main administrative offices, therapy program, and Miracle League baseball field. 96 residents plus community day clients.

#### **Foglia Education Center** (same address as above)

A non-public state-certified school for students ages 3 through 21 with multiple complex medical conditions and those on the autism spectrum. Offering special education within Multi-Needs and Life Skills programs.

### MARKLUND PHILIP CENTER

164 S. Prairie Avenue  
Bloomington, Illinois 60108  
Phone: 630.529.2871  
Fax: 630.529.3266

Medically Complex/DD Facility for children and adults. Skilled nursing, Community Day Services, therapy services, and recreational and community activities. 21 residents.

#### **Marklund Day School** (same address as above)

Phone: 630.307.1882  
Fax: 630.307.6491

A non-public state-certified school that partners with area school districts to provide a highly specialized education experience. This therapeutic, sensory-driven Multi-Needs Program serves individuals ages 3 through 21 with medical, developmental, and physical disabilities.

#### **Ann Haskins Center** (same address as above)

Through the Life Skills Program, teachers and paraprofessionals provide individualized functional curriculum and supports for students who are diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum, those with emotional/behavioral disorders, specific learning disabilities, and developmental disabilities.



### MARKLUND WASMOND CENTER & SCHOOL

1435 Summit Street  
Elgin, Illinois 60120  
Phone: 224.523.7530  
Fax: 847.622.5523

Medically Complex/DD Facility for children and adults. Skilled nursing, Community Day Services, and therapy services. The five-acre campus includes the residential facility and Community Day Services. Additional services include recreational and community activities. 57 residents. Site also features two **Marklund Day School** classrooms for students in the Multi-Needs Program.

## EVENT CALENDAR



**VIRTUAL**  
Run, Walk & Roll-Geneva  
Oct. 18, 2020

**25th Annual Top Hat Ball**  
TBD 2021

our social network



www.marklund.org | info@marklund.org