

December 7, 2018

Here are a few highlights over the past month:

- Since my last report, Marklund has received **\$2.1M** from the State of Illinois. Our aging for Residential and Developmental Training, through November stands at \$2.5M. We currently have our entire **\$7M** line of credit available.
- The **capital campaign** is coming along very well. We are already over **\$1.6M!** Each of you received an email last month from the Campaign Chair, **Frank Murnane**, that encouraged participation by the board with the hope that the board commitments would be completed before the January meeting. I want to thank all of you who have already made your decision. It is also hoped that many of you will have individuals whom you feel might be open to be approached about the school expansion in Geneva.
- Our Kane County Board member **Drew Frasz**, and two members of the county staff, came out to the Geneva campus on Friday, November 16 to tour and to review the plans for the new school. He could not have been more supportive of our efforts and excited to have a great new resource come to the area.
- I have **attached** the letter that I sent to the staff this week with a report on the first 12 weeks of our **retention initiative**. As you will read, we have made some very good progress which I expect to accelerate during the second 12 weeks of the initiative.
- I want to thank **Jeff Blanchette** for inviting me to speak on November 11 to almost 100 staff at the BMO Harris annual “Townhall Meeting” at their offices in Naperville. A number of them in attendance had volunteered at our Geneva location and there were a few who had volunteered at the Marklund Wasmond Center in Elgin. BMO Harris is a Corporate Partner.
- We sent congratulatory letters to our newly elected, or re-elected, public officials. We invited our new Congresswoman, **Lauren Underwood**, who unseated Randy Hultgren, to tour our Geneva facility. With her nursing background we are hoping that she is going to be assigned to committees dealing with healthcare.
- I want to thank **Duane Fitch** for his prominent positioning of some Marklund material in a promotional video that Plante Moran is doing on him. ☺
- Marklund was asked to be part of the **Comcast Newsmaker** series (**picture attached**). During the 4:30 minute interview I highlighted three areas. First, I spoke about the inadequate reimbursement rate that dates back to 1994. This results in a \$17K gap for each resident and means that we need fundraise \$3M/year to fund that gap. Second, I spoke about the billions of dollars that the state owes nonprofits, millions to Marklund. Third, I said that not only is the state not doing enough today but there is a “tidal wave” of individuals with developmental disabilities – as many as are currently being served in all facilities in the state - who live at home with parents who are 60+ years old and who are going to need this kind of care.

It has not been posted yet but you will be able to view the interview in the next few days at:

<https://comcastnewsmakers.com/State/Illinois>. You can search by date; the interview took place this past Wednesday (12/5).

- Just as a reminder, here are the **Board dates** for **2019**: **January 24, April 4, May 23** (Finance only), **June 27, August 16** (Board Retreat), **October 24**.

Thank you for your commitment to our mission...our promise...and for ALL you do to ***make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities***. Wishing each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year.

I look forward to seeing you at the January board meeting.

Gil