

October 4, 2019

Here are a few highlights over the past month:

- Since my last report, Marklund has received **\$1.7M** from the State of Illinois. Our aging for Residential and Community Day Services, through September, stands at \$3.6M. We are currently using \$350K out of our line of credit; we have \$6.65M available.
- The annual **Leadership Giving Circle Donor Reception** that was held at the Glen Oak Country Club on Sept 12 was our best yet; we had a great turnout of our top donors. I was able to share the exciting progress on the new school and our preliminary work on the LIFTS initiation. They also had a lot of interest in the strong turnaround we made over the past year in our retention initiative. I want to thank **Frank Murnane** and **Mike Herlihy** for attending. I also want to thank Frank and Jackie for hosting the event...on their wedding anniversary! ☺
- We went to Springfield on Sept 25 to meet with the President and the Executive Director of The Center (part of the Illinois Health Care Association that advocates for those who serve individuals with development disabilities) about our **LIFTS** initiative. They were very encouraging. We learned that the rule to restrict group homes within 800' of each other is being removed. We also learned that the state is going to leave the construction of group homes up to the zoning ordinance of local municipalities. The change to the rule is awaiting the Governor's approval. The property we bought in Elgin is zoned for group homes with up to eight individuals/home so there should be absolutely NO regulatory reason to keep us from constructing the homes in our "cluster" concept.
- On Sat, Sept 28 **John Lund** (our namesake, Mark's father), who is 88 years old, toured both the Geneva and Bloomingdale campuses. John had never been to MHC before and was "blown away" by what we do there. He received a wonderful welcome from the Community Day Services staff and residents who made signs for him. The staff and residents of the Haverkamp Home went *over-the-top* with the "party" they threw for him; John was stunned by the reception. John, who lives in California, also brought his two sons (Jim & Chris) who had never been to Marklund before. John was here for his 70th high school reunion.

I attached an email that I sent in response to John.

- On November 1 we are scheduled to meet with the **new Executive Director** of the Department of Human Service –Developmental Disabilities Division, **Allison Stark**, along with our State Representative Anna Moeller, the Chair of the Human Service Appropriations Committee (Robyn Gable) and other DHS staff in Chicago to discuss our LIFTS initiation.
- We just received the results of our annual Parent/Guardian Survey. We received a total of 69 surveys, all of them are anonymous, which is over a 50% increase over last year and

almost a 70% increase over the average of the last four years. The results were a wonderful confirmation of our commitment to *making everyday life possible for individuals with profound disability*. Here are a few of the responses:

- **Would you recommend Marklund to a family member?**
 - Yes – 100%
- **Overall quality of care?**
 - Meets or exceeds their expectations – 100%
- **Overall quality of life?**
 - Meets or exceeds their expectations – 100%
- The **MDS – Geneva** school construction is continuing to come along very well...despite the very wet September that we experienced. There are 24 new paver parking spaces near the Hyde Center ready to be used. The new retention pond is done and the site is ready to receive the pre-cast walls that are slated to be delivered on Mon, October 21. We are ahead of schedule...currently...and on track to receive our Certificate of Occupancy next May.
- Just as a reminder, here are the remaining Board dates for **2019: October 23** and for **2020: January 30, April 2**, May 21 (Finance only), **June 25**, August 14 (Board Retreat) and **October 22**. All of these dates should be in your Outlook.

Please note that the Board meeting this month is on Wednesday, October 23.

Thank you for all you do to *make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities*.

God bless you!
Gil