Inside...

- Reflections on Working throughout a Pandemic
- A 2nd Virtual Success for Run, Walk & Roll-Bloomingdale
- Meet Isaiah Santiago - From Volunteer to RN
- A Day of Golf at Rich Harvest Farms
- End-of-Summer Summer Games
- A New Pool Coming to the Wasmond Center
- Our Fiscal Year-End Appeal
- Leadership Giving Circle Turns 10
- Marklund Event Calendar
- Where to Find Us

Welcoming visitors back!

After more than a year, visitors were finally able to connect with their loved ones in person, with long-awaited hugs, following IL Department of Public Health guidelines. It was hard to see who was happiest—the families, the residents or the staff!
Virtual 5K connects supporters around the country

Going virtual did not stop supporters from joining in this year’s Run, Walk & Roll-Bloomingdale 5K/1M event—it in fact, it actually brought in new participants.

According to Natalie Sarby, Marklund’s Race Director, this year’s virtual event drew 263 participants from East to West coasts, helping to surpass our goal by raising over $65,000.

“It was exciting to see where and how each one of our participants celebrated their virtual 5K/1Mile—to make a difference from a distance,” she said. “From all around Illinois, plus Alaska to Florida and nine states in between, we are so grateful for all the support that has allowed Marklund to exceed yet another virtual event goal!”

Many participants joined together into teams to participate in this RWR-B, Marklund’s fifth venture into the virtual arena. Spread over three days, this year’s event took on a slightly different look from last year’s when Illinois’ statewide shutdown forced it into virtual status shortly before race day.

Participants joined wherever, whenever during that timeframe, and shared their photos and videos on Marklund’s social media pages.

“It was fun to see and feel the support of our donors, family members, and our Marklund community from all over the country,” added Heather Graves, Chief Development Officer. “The virtual option gave many people the chance to join in who have never participated before—either because of distance, COVID restrictions, or being hesitant to try this kind of event in person. We may not have been together, but we had such a community feel!”

A big thanks to Presenting Sponsor Fitch Foundation, and all other sponsors for supporting the event. Check out more photos, videos and timing link at www.marklund.org/5kbloomingdale.
EXPERIENCE A DAY OF GOLF AT RICH HARVEST FARMS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

As a premier destination for golfers from all over the world, with an exclusive private membership, Rich Harvest Farms is one of the greatest courses in the country, receiving critical acclaim and countless accolades.

ONLY 40 SPOTS OPEN!
Single golf spot at $1,500 per person.
Overnight suite accommodations at $500 per person.
Register at www.marklund.org/golfclassic

AGENDA
11:30am: Arrival and lunch
1:30pm: Tee Time
6:30-8:30pm: Dinner & cocktails
8:30pm: Escort to private suites, for those staying overnight

“The golfers who almost exclusively play public golf courses, playing this course was an eye-opening experience—it is very interesting and extremely challenging.” – George Fako

All net proceeds will support Marklund’s promise to make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities.

Improvements at Wasmond Center

The therapy pool at our Wasmond Center campus in Elgin has been closed since 2019 due to extensive renovations needed not only to repair issues but to align it with the many building code changes that developed over the past 20 years. Equipped with ramps, grab bars, and showers, an improved Aquatic Center will allow our therapy team to implement a consistent and safe aquatic therapy program for the residents.

To Learn More

Spread the Word
Create A Fundraising Page
Make a Difference
Give A Gift

Visit: https://p2p.onecause.com/projectpooltransformation

The Leadership Giving Circle Turns 10

It’s hard to believe that just over a decade ago, we formed the Leadership Giving Circle (LGC). Having cumulative giving of $1,000 or more each fiscal year, members of this distinguished group of leaders ensure the future of Marklund with their dedication to our residents, students, and community clients. Our Leadership Giving Circle allows us to:

• Recognize and thank our donors for exceptional and generous gifts
• Engage new volunteers and Marklund leadership
• Strengthen relationships and partnerships with our donors

There is still time to be a part of the 10th Anniversary celebration in September!

To join our Circle of Leaders, visit: https://www.marklund.org/leadershipgivingcircle or contact Stephanie Myers, Individual Giving Manager, smyers@marklund.org or 630.593.5473.
Looking back...
One year ago, we never could have imagined how much life was going to change. Marklund residents have been significantly affected by the COVID-19 crisis, losing thousands of hours of activities due to state mandated restrictions.
• Over 2,000 in-person visits with family and friends missed, and 700 community outings cancelled
• 15,000 volunteer hours gone
• 1,800 in-person therapy hours lost
• Over 1,900 Community Day Service Hours lost for our residents and Community Clients, isolated at home
• 96 total in-class school days missed for our students

Looking forward...
We’ve learned and evolved this past year. We plan to carry many of our new programs and practices forward, to further enhance the depth of our care as we carry our mission into the future.
• We have implemented new safety procedures for health screening of all staff/visitors
• We are well-stocked with PPE in preparation for current and future needs
• We’ve purchased new technology to ensure that all of our residents have regular access to their families and friends through Zoom, Skype and FaceTime
• We have developed many different virtual therapy, volunteer, and visitation options for our residents

Best of all – residents and staff were first in line for COVID-19 vaccinations! With almost 100% of residents and 70% of staff already vaccinated, it gives us even greater confidence that our residents and staff will remain safe.

Our lives have been changed in unexpected ways, but Marklund Never Stops; everything we do is possible because of people like YOU. Your gift will ensure that our staff have the tools to make everyday life possible for every individual we serve, no matter what we encounter in the future.

Your support makes a great impact. Thank you for your dedication to the people we serve!

End-of-Summer Summer Games
As Marklund is able to gradually reopen, carefully following guidelines from IL Department of Public Health and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS), we are planning to host our annual Summer Games in August, and hope to welcome families to participate. Stay tuned for the official word.

The games are slated for:
Geneva - Aug. 14
Bloomington - Aug. 21


To give online, please follow the QR code or visit www.marklund.org/weneverstop/

Credit Card Information
☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard  ☐ American Express  ☐ Discover

REDIT CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE  CVV NUMBER

AME ON CARD

SIGNATURE

ESESS

ITY  STATE  ZIP

MIBLE NUMBER  EMAIL ADDRESS

1S450 Wyat Drive, Geneva, IL 60134  630.593.5500

Contributions to Marklund are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

Enclosed is my gift of:
☐$___________

Payment Method
☐ Check enclosed (payable to Marklund)
☐ Please charge my credit card
☐ I commit to a monthly gift of $________

This gift is ☐ in honor ☐ in memory of

☐ I (we) wish to remain anonymous

My birthday is _______ / _______ (MM/DD)

I would like more information about
☐ Volunteering or taking a tour at Marklund
☐ Naming Marklund in my will
☐ Doubling my gift with a match by my employer

Your gift will be matched, by BMO Harris Bank dollar-for-dollar, up to a total of $10,000, if made by June 30!
Meet Isaiah Santiago, RN
From Volunteer to Nurse

Six-and-a-half years after he became a Marklund volunteer at age 14, Isaiah Santiago is spending time with the residents in a different role—as a nurse.

After receiving his RN degree from Waubonsee Community College, Isaiah joined the staff as a PM-shift nurse in one of the 16-bed homes located on the Marklund Hyde Center campus in Geneva. Unlike most people starting new jobs, Isaiah is familiar with the environment, already knowing many of the residents and staff.

“Having volunteered here since I was younger, I got to know the people and the way things are done,” he said. “As a volunteer, you’re doing a good deed by helping the residents take part in a variety of activities and outings they would not normally be able to do. Now I directly interact with all 16 residents in the home each day so it’s a different perspective, more responsibility.”

Isaiah “naturally adapted” his interest in healthcare from his parents, George and Raquel, both of whom have worked at Marklund as CNAs. George, an employee since 2008, received the organization’s Employee of the Year award in 2017, while Isaiah earned recognition in 2018 as the Hyde Center Campus Volunteer with the most hours.

“My dad set an example by showing it’s important to help as many people as possible and how you can make their day better,” Isaiah said.

Working as a volunteer, Isaiah got a firsthand look at what staff does each day, so he recommends volunteering to other teens possibly considering healthcare as a career.

“For me, I knew I wanted to be able to help more people,” he said. “Healthcare is my pathway to do that.”

Words Can Describe...
working through a pandemic

For 15 months, Marklund employees have perpetually pivoted to make everyday life possible for the residents and students who call Marklund home and school. It turns out, words can describe what life has been like for the 500+ men and women who work here 24/7/365. The words are not only shared below but throughout the newsletter.

What is left to be added? Just, thank you!
OUR LOCATIONS

MARKLUND WASMOND CENTER & DAY SCHOOL - ELGIN
1435 Summit Street | Elgin, Illinois 60120 | 224.523.7530

MARKLUND PHILIP CENTER & DAY SCHOOL - BLOOMINGDALE
164 S. Prairie Avenue | Bloomingdale, Illinois 60108 | 630.529.2871

MARKLUND HYDE CENTER & DAY SCHOOL - GENEVA
13450 Wyatt Drive | Geneva, Illinois 60134 | 630.593.5500

2021 SPECIAL EVENTS

Note: We are hoping to hold our upcoming 2021-22 events in person. However, they could become virtual or hybrid if necessary, depending on the status of the pandemic. Changes will be announced on our website and social media pages.

Project Pool Transformation
Through June 30, 2021

Summer Games
• Marklund Hyde Center - Aug. 14, 2021
• Marklund Philip Center - Aug. 21, 2021
• Marklund Wasmond Center - Aug. 28, 2021

A Day of Golf at Rich Harvest Farms
Oct. 14, 2021

9th annual
Run, Walk & Roll-Geneva
Oct. 17, 2021

26th annual Top Hat Ball
Feb. 5, 2022

5th annual
Run, Walk & Roll-Bloomington
April 24, 2022

our social network
www.marklund.org | info@marklund.org