

FALL 2022



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We Are Marklund

Making *everyday life* possible for individuals with profound disabilities



From the desk of Gil Fonger, President & CEO

Despite the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, last year, we began researching how to incorporate a *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion* program into the Marklund culture.

A strategic DE&I plan can help us to be more intentional about our diversity by creating an inclusive, equitable and sustainable culture and work environment. Workplace diversity of gender, race, culture, religion, age and sexual orientation, is the collective mixture of differences and similarities that include values, beliefs, experiences, backgrounds, preferences and behaviors.

- **Diversity creates the potential for greater innovation and productivity.**
- **Inclusion gives people a reason to choose to work and stay at Marklund.**
- **Equity refers to providing impartial and fair treatment and access to opportunity and advancement for all employees.**

As a nonprofit healthcare organization, Marklund must follow many mandates by IDPH, DHS, OSHA, CDC and other regulatory organizations...but (surprisingly!) this is not one of

them. We decided that *we wanted to do this* to become even more intentional about our desire to build on the strength that comes from our diversity. The Leadership team met with our DE&I consultant, Julius Rhodes, this spring for our initial training...which began what should be a great journey for all of us at Marklund.

At Marklund, we will always strive to provide a culture that values not just the contributions employees make to our team, but also values them as a person. Through our DE&I plan, we will focus on helping to ensure every member of the Marklund family feels accepted and valued for who they are.

Among our initial steps has been the formation of a DE&I committee that will be tasked with looking at a range of issues that are designed to strengthen a culture of inclusion that we want to foster at Marklund. Our goal is to normalize the conversation, identify and address inequities, and empower and support staff.

I look forward to the great things we will continue to accomplish together and knowing that our new DE&I program is a tool we can use to get there.



10 Years of Running, Walking & Rolling for Marklund in



October 16, 2022

8:30 A.M. 5K/1Mile Start

Marklund Hyde Center
1S450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, IL



'22

For information on securing a sponsorship or volunteering for the event, contact **Natalie Sarby** at nsarby@marklund.org.



When Heather Graves, Chief Development Officer, joined Marklund in 2011, one of her goals was to establish a Marklund 5K fundraiser. In 2013, that goal was met with the first Run, Walk & Roll held at Marklund's Geneva campus. This fall, Marklund will celebrate the 10th anniversary of this 5K/1-Mile event on Sunday, Oct. 16.

"Marklund has such a rich history with two long-standing signature events – I wanted to take that successful formula and bring it right "home" to the South Mill Creek neighborhood!" said Graves, herself an avid runner. "Running and walking are so inclusive and really have the power to bring people together, which was important to me. Our residents can participate with their

families, staff can come out with their kids, and our community can actively be a part of it all – with many visiting Marklund's campus for the first time."

In 2013, 593 participants joined in the inaugural Run, Walk & Roll (RWR), helping Marklund raise \$31,455 in net proceeds.

Since then, more than \$569,000 has been raised at our Geneva RWR, with another \$264,000 brought in with the addition of the RWR-Bloomington five years ago.

"Ten years later, I'm beyond thrilled with the growth and support of this event. Not only has it raised substantial funding for Marklund, but it has truly built a sense of community and awareness that we hoped for in a fundraiser," Graves added.

Registration for the 10th annual Run, Walk & Roll-Geneva is being accepted at, visit www.marklund.org/5kgeneva. Participants of all ages are accepted for both the 1-mile walk/run and the 5K. Online registration will be accepted through Oct. 11. Those who want to participate virtually may also register online.

"We are very excited to announce that special 10th Anniversary medals will be awarded to the top two male and female finishers in various age categories this year," said Natalie Sarby, Race Director.

Details on how to set up a personal fundraising page can be found on the website as well. "Individuals and teams who support the RWR event this way are champions in our eyes as they extend the reach of our mission to their own circle of friends," Sarby added.

School Team welcomes students Back to School

Summer may be over but the fun continues for students and staff at Marklund Day School.



Hayden flashes his huge smile every day at school.

For most school children, back to school means getting back into the school-day routine of commuting to school either by bus or other form of transportation, seeing old classmates, teachers and staff, and meeting new ones, learning where the lockers or cubbies are, which classroom to go to and which desk to sit at. It's an exciting time, but is also an anxious time.

For the 74 students attending Marklund Day School's Life Skills or MultiNeeds programs in Bloomingdale, Geneva or Elgin this fall, the same is true—but these students also need to transition into the new routines while managing their disabilities. The faculty and staff at

Marklund Day School are ready to help.

"At Marklund Day School, we are committed to providing high-quality individualized educational and vocational programming for students ages 3-21 with mild to complex disabilities, including autism," said Paula Bodzioch, Director of Education and Adult Services.

At Marklund Day School, it "takes a village" – specially trained staff – to help make that possible. At current count, 17 teachers and 33 paraprofessionals and 12 registered behavior technicians provide very specialized education to the students with the assistance of instructional coaches, nurses,



A state-of-the-art educational facility, MDS provides access to the latest in technology, including computers equipped with accessible switches and adapted programs, iPads, Prowise SMART boards.

occupational therapists/COTAs, speech and language therapists, physical therapists/PT assistants, social workers, music therapists, administrative staff, support services staff, and even volunteers.

As a non-public, Illinois State Board of Education-approved program, Marklund Day School partners with area school districts to make sure all students receive the education they deserve. "We need to fit our environment, approach, instruction and care to help them discover their special abilities and potential," Bodzioch added. "Just like every school, we want to see our students be happy and successful."

For information, visit www.marklund.org/school.

Marklund in Geneva: 20th Anniversary

Long-time Staff – Committed to the Mission and the residents!



Jalpa Pandya, Physical Therapist

"My Marklund family inspires me to be the best version of myself and reminds me to make a difference however big or small. They've taught me to not take life for granted, to smile more, and most importantly, to love more."



Wes Kochan, Recreation Therapist, CTRS, Activity Coordinator.

"It's so great to be able to make a positive difference in people's lives."



Christine Wilkins, Medical Records Coordinator (former CNA, Lead CNA)

"Being a part of the Marklund community means everything to me! Marklund helped shape the person I am today!"

SUMMER

at Marklund



MARKLUND
GOLF
CLASSIC
Home of the Porter Cup



Marklund residents Mike and Kristen joined in the morning action at the Golf Classic with Frank Murnane Jr., Gil Fonger, Jim Porter, Nick Porter and Jim Porter Jr.

40 YEARS

of Golfing for Marklund

This summer, we had one of the best golf days in Marklund history!

After 40 years, we are still going strong. With the support of 229 golfers, sponsors and donors, we reached a record \$264,000 in net proceeds to help make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities and special healthcare needs.

A big thanks to Presenting Sponsor Porter Pipe and everyone who sponsored, golfed, volunteered and bid.

Save the Date for Thursday, June 1, 2023, for another great day at Cog Hill!

Looking Back

Our Name:

The First Annual Marklund Home Golf Outing is held in 1983. The event is later renamed the Stan Haverkamp Memorial Golf Outing then later the Gale Sayers - Marklund Golf Classic.

Who Joined Us:

Dozens of celebrity golfers have participated over the years including Dan Hampton, Otis Wilson, and Roland Harper (Chicago Bears); Billy Williams (Cubs), Cliff Levingston (Bulls), Eric Soderholm (White Sox), Stan Mikita (Blackhawks) and Craig Stadler (PGA).

Presented by



An M2030 Strategic Plan Update

Promising progress made on expansion projects

Pre-cast walls, hand-laid brick, stamped concrete, underground storm-water traps and detention ponds have been among the progression made on three capital projects this summer at Marklund's Geneva and Elgin locations.

Under the watchful eyes of many participants in Marklund's Community Day Services (CDS) classrooms in Geneva, construction crews have excavated land, laid underground utilities and foundation footers, assembled walls and roofing and are completing interiors for the **Locker Room Expansion** of the Aquatic Therapy Pool in the Hyde Center. In addition, a new stamped concrete patio has been developed for use by those in the CDS program. This 3,700-square-foot addition will provide a greatly improved and expanded locker room and office area for therapy staff, doubling the number of participants who will be able to benefit from the aquatic therapy program. Completion is expected in October.

Alongside the locker room expansion, the **Maintenance Garage** project is beginning to take shape. New to the Hyde Center campus, the 5,300-square-foot building will feature garage bays to house the growing fleet of

company vehicles and equipment, as well as storage area and offices, which will free up much needed areas inside the Hyde Center for other use. Completion is slated by mid-January 2023.

Twenty-two miles northeast of the Hyde Center, other crews have been working all summer on demolition, excavation and utilities projects in preparation of constructing the new **Nathan Education Center** in Elgin. As the 16,000-square-foot building is assembled, Marklund Day School and CDS administrators are busy developing programming for the Life Skills and Bridge Builder programs that will be housed in the structure, for students and adults in the community needing program support. The building is slated to open in March 2023.

These projects are part of Phase One of Marklund's M2030 Strategic Plan. Among other initiatives are the renovation and expansion of the residential facilities at the Philip and Wasmond Centers, developing a new workforce model, opening a training center, and creating our cluster concept for building group homes or CILAs (Community Integrated Living Arrangements).



State Rep. Receives Marklund Advocacy Awards

In recognition of her continued support of Marklund and her ongoing advocacy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, Illinois State Representative Anna Moeller received Marklund's Excellence in Advocacy Award in August.

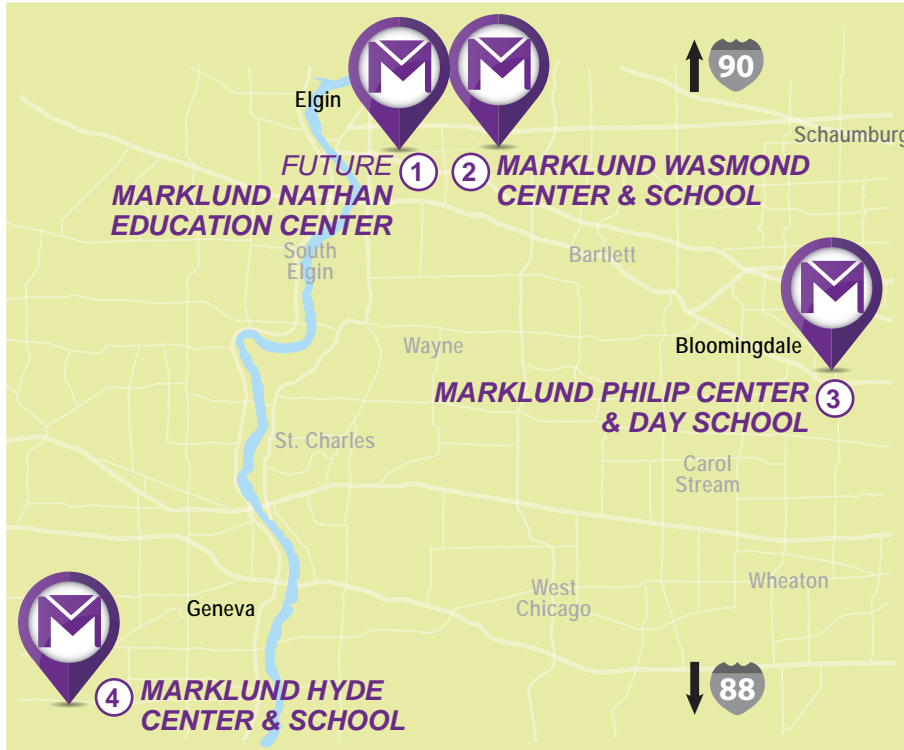
This is Rep. Moeller's second time receiving the award for her dedication to helping Marklund's expansion initiatives in Elgin, specifically to build group homes—Community Independent Living Arrangements (CILAs)—as well as a special education center that will open next year.

"This award is our way to recognize those elected officials whose extraordinary advocacy efforts have been carried out in support of the children and adults we serve," said Gil Fonger, Marklund president & CEO. "We are extremely grateful for Rep. Moeller's continued interest in helping Marklund grow and provide more opportunities for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities."

Among past two-time winners was Rep. Keith Wheeler for his efforts made in support of the Marklund Day School and students with special needs.

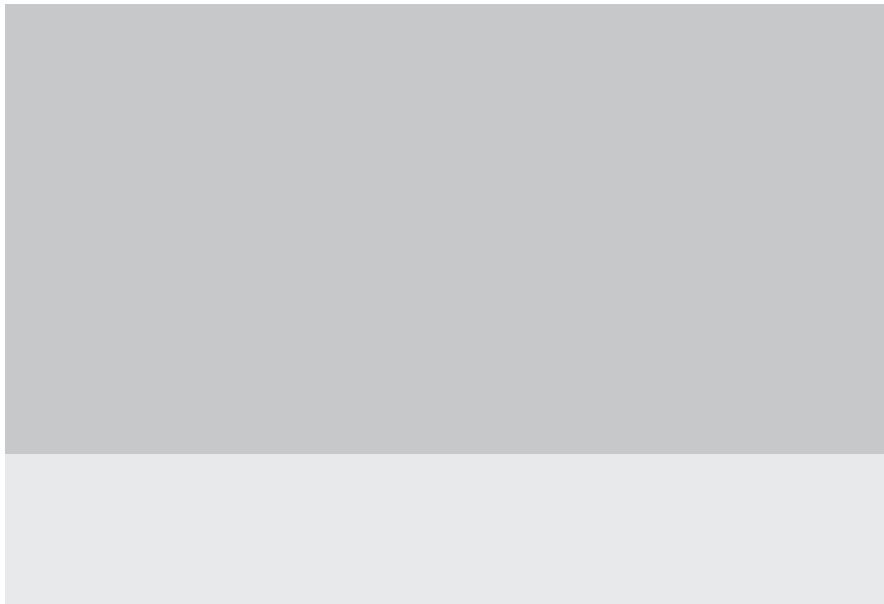


Find us at multiple locations



- ① **FUTURE SITE - Opens May 2023**
MARKLUND NATHAN EDUCATION CENTER
1210 Hunter Dr., Elgin, Illinois 60120
- ② **MARKLUND WASMOND CENTER & SCHOOL**
1435 Summit Street, Elgin, Illinois 60120
224.523.7530
- ③ **MARKLUND PHILIP CENTER**
164 S. Prairie Ave., Bloomington, Illinois 60108
630.529.2871
- ③ **MARKLUND DAY SCHOOL - BLOOMINGDALE**
Ann Haskins Center
164 S. Prairie Ave., Bloomington, Illinois 60108
630.307.1882
- ④ **MARKLUND HYDE CENTER**
15450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, Illinois 60134
630.593.5500
- ④ **MARKLUND DAY SCHOOL - GENEVA,**
Foglia Education Center
15450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, Illinois 60134
630.307.1882

MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The Marklund Board of Directors is made up of a group of volunteers from the suburbs and Chicago area who are committed to providing oversight and advancing the mission and vision of Marklund.

Having diverse backgrounds, the Board members bring experience from various business sectors, service organizations and personal connections to the developmental disabilities world.

UPCOMING EVENTS



● **10th Annual**
Run, Walk & Roll
Geneva
Oct. 16, 2022



● **Giving Tuesday**
Nov. 29, 2022



● **27th Annual**
Top Hat Ball
Feb. 4, 2023

FIND US, FOLLOW US:



www.marklund.org
info@marklund.org



1S450 Wyatt Dr., Geneva, IL 60134



CARELETTER A newsletter for those who care about **Marklund**



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