

SUMMER 2022

Celebrating 20 Years in Geneva



INSIDE

• An in-person record at our Run, Walk & Roll-Bloomingle

• Diggin' our newest site: the Nathan Education Center

• An M2030 plan update

• 20 Years in Geneva – Looking back with staff

• Volunteering during a pandemic

• A fun new venture for Wasmond Center—Project Playground

• Focusing on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

• Where to find us

• Upcoming Events; Follow us

• We are hiring!

We Are Marklund

Making everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities



We ran, we walked & we rolled to a new Record!



Marklund's in-person event record of
\$64,000
NET PROCEEDS

Nearly 480 people ranging in age from 7 months to 77 years helped Marklund celebrate the 5th Annual Run, Walk & Roll-Bloomingtondale 5K/1 Mile event and take it to a new **in-person fundraising record of \$64,000 in net proceeds!**

"This year's event was so special," noted Heather Graves, Chief Development Officer. "Despite a little rain, it was so wonderful to be back in person after 2 years of virtual events. Our runners, walkers, staff and residents took to the streets enjoying the fresh air, grateful to be back with friends, donors, neighbors and volunteers once again!"

Many people echoed that sentiment, saying it felt "so normal" to be back in person for this event, and were especially happy to see the residents of the Marklund

Philip Center in their wheelchairs being able to "Roll" in the 1-mile event assisted by staff and volunteers.

Notable finishes for the 5K included winner Patrick Devitt who crossed the finish line at 18:28, and 9-year-old Jake Breen who finished 4th overall with a time of 21:42. As a special note, a 71-year-old woman who won in her age bracket said this was the first race she had ever won!

A big thank you goes out to **Fitch Foundation**, this year's Presenting Sponsor, as well as the many other event sponsors.

Find details on race results, sponsors and event photos at www.marklund.org/5Kbloomingtondale.

**RUN
WALK
& ROLL**
5K/1MILE
GENEVA

SAVE THE DATE
Sunday, October 16, 2022
10th Annual Run, Walk & Roll!





Breaking Ground for future developments

Our Nathan

With gold shovels, hard hats, back hoes and bulldozers, Marklund officially commenced construction on its first three M2030 strategic plan projects this spring.

In Elgin, staff, donors, board members and dignities gathered for a ceremonial groundbreaking event at the project site for the **Nathan Education Center**. Located at 1210 Hunter Drive, the center is being named for a young man who was served by Marklund for several years, and whose family wishes to use his legacy to help others.

State Sen. Christine Castro and state Rep. Anna Moeller also attended the event, with Rep. Moeller thanking Marklund for building this new center in Elgin.

The new Education Center will allow Marklund to expand its Day School's program for students on the autism spectrum, as well as its Community Day Services for adults in the area needing program support.

"This facility will be the answer to the prayers of many."

—Gil Fonger,
Marklund President & CEO.

In Geneva, FCL Builders construction crews got the ball rolling without fanfare but with a great deal of digging and demolition as they began excavation and underground utility work for the expansion of the Hyde Center's Aquatic Center **locker room and new**

maintenance garage. Residents of the Community Day Services program housed in the Hyde Center have enjoyed an up-close view of the action happening right outside of windows.

The new locker room will provide a much improved and expanded facility, basically double the number of Marklund residents and students who will be able to benefit from Marklund's specialized aquatic therapy program. The new maintenance building will feature offices, storage and large garage areas.

The maintenance garage and locker room area are expected to be completed in December, while the finish date for the Nathan Education Center is slated for February, 2023.



Excavation is well underway for the construction of the new maintenance garage and locker room expansion in Geneva.

You can make a
Splash

gift of \$5,000 or more.) With a generous contribution to the Aquatic Center expansion plan, donors will also be recognized as a part of Marklund's **Leadership Giving Circle** and invited to the Annual Donor Appreciation Event on September 15th.

Give a gift of \$5,000+ between **July 1-17**, and your name will be included on a beautiful donor wall in the expanded Aquatic Center donor wall! (*The gift may be a \$1,000 donation per year for 5 years, or a single



For information, contact **Natalie Sarby** Individual Giving Manager, nsarby@marklund.org or (630)593-5461.

Celebrating 20 Years in Geneva

2002-2022



Late in 2002, the Marklund organization open the doors to its newest location—a 25-acre campus featuring a 45,000-square-foot Administration & Developmental Training center with aquatic therapy pool, dental office, hair salon, as well as four 16-bed residential buildings, and room to expand. Then called Marklund at Mill Creek for being situated within the Mill Creek subdivision in unincorporated Geneva, this new development was Marklund's largest fundraising undertaking up to then—a \$17 million campaign with a large portion funded through Federal government aide, thanks to support from Congressman Henry Hyde. Administrative staff from Human Resources, Finance, Development, Volunteers were the first to move in, while residents from group homes were transported over daily for Developmental Training from Marklund's other facilities/group homes located around DuPage County.

Many of our employees who took part in this milestone move are still on staff today, happy to share their memories in our *CareLetter* as well as our website at www.marklund.org/20years.



Constructing Hyde Center atrium



Aerial view of new campus

Marklund employees still caring after all these years



**Vicki Reyes,
Therapist-COTA/L:**

*I have learned
that possibilities
are limitless.
My heart is here
and I do not
take anything
for granted.*



**Wendy Berk:
HIPAA/Compliance**

*When we first
opened, we could
see how happy the
residents were.
Having an amazing
new home that
belonged to them
made us all so
happy.*



**Peggy Szarynski,
Medical Records:**

*I just had a
feeling this is
where I need
to be.*

FIND US, FOLLOW US:



The Marklund Volunteer Department Vision Statement:

To connect the community with rewarding volunteer opportunities at Marklund while supporting our staff in its mission to make Everyday Life possible for our residents with profound disabilities.



Appreciating our *Volunteers*

Volunteers have always been an important part of the Marklund organization. Whether providing support to residents onsite at our Geneva, Elgin and Bloomingdale campuses or on outings in the community, helping with office duties or working at a fundraising event, they are an integral part of the Marklund team. They help Marklund make everyday life possible for those adults and children we serve by helping them take part in therapeutic, recreational and educational activities, and by being a new face to see, a new person to interact with—all while supporting our staff.

Marklund began with many dedicated and compassionate volunteers helping to care for Mark William Lund, our first resident, back in the 1950s, and the many residents and community clients since then.

Each year in April—National Volunteer Month—we recognize the important effort provided by those who choose to volunteer at Marklund. While over the past two years we have had to limit onsite

volunteer opportunities due to the pandemic, many of our friends refused to stay away from the relationships they forged with residents and staff, and stepped up by volunteering in a variety of creative ways. Thanks to video conferencing apps like Zoom, we've welcomed virtual book clubs, spiritual meetings, music sessions, and even online visits from equine therapy friends. Others took to creating and sending cards and letters, shopping for residents, and providing meals for staff. As we were allowed to loosen restrictions, vaccinated volunteers wearing masks and eye protection, happily returned on-site, assisting with taking residents on outings into the community, bringing therapy pets in to make personal visits, decorating for the holidays, reading favorite books in-person, and making connections.

To learn more about volunteering at Marklund, contact the Volunteer Department staff through www.marklund.org/volunteer. No matter what your gift, talents, skills or age, you can become a part of Marklund.

WHO CAN VOLUNTEER?

• High-school students ages 14 and up (without an adult) • College students • Stay-at-home parents • Retired adults • Working adults • Corporate professionals • Faith-based groups • School groups • Athletic teams • Scout troops • Court-appointed individuals • Service professionals • Musicians • Artists • Pet therapists • Children (with parents)



Help build a brand new, accessible
playground at the Wasmond Center
in Elgin!



SCAN HERE
TO LEARN
MORE AND
DONATE!



Make a donation or start a fundraising page to support the development of a brand new accessible playground at the Marklund Wasmond Center (MWC) in Elgin. This new, fun, special place will provide a multitude of recreational, social and therapeutic opportunities to MWC's 61 children and adult residents.

From a wheelchair accessible merry-go-round, to a percussion sensory garden – this custom playground is designed with a rubberized surface that is perfect for wheelchairs, and is guaranteed to bring more activity, smiles, and sunshine into Marklund resident's lives.

Any funds raised above the budget will be used for additional supplies for the play area. Make sure to stay tuned while we reveal new details as Marklund continues the planning process!



Project 
**PLAY
GROUND**



Questions?

Contact Natalie Sarby, Individual Giving Manager,
at nsarby@marklund.org or 630-593-5461

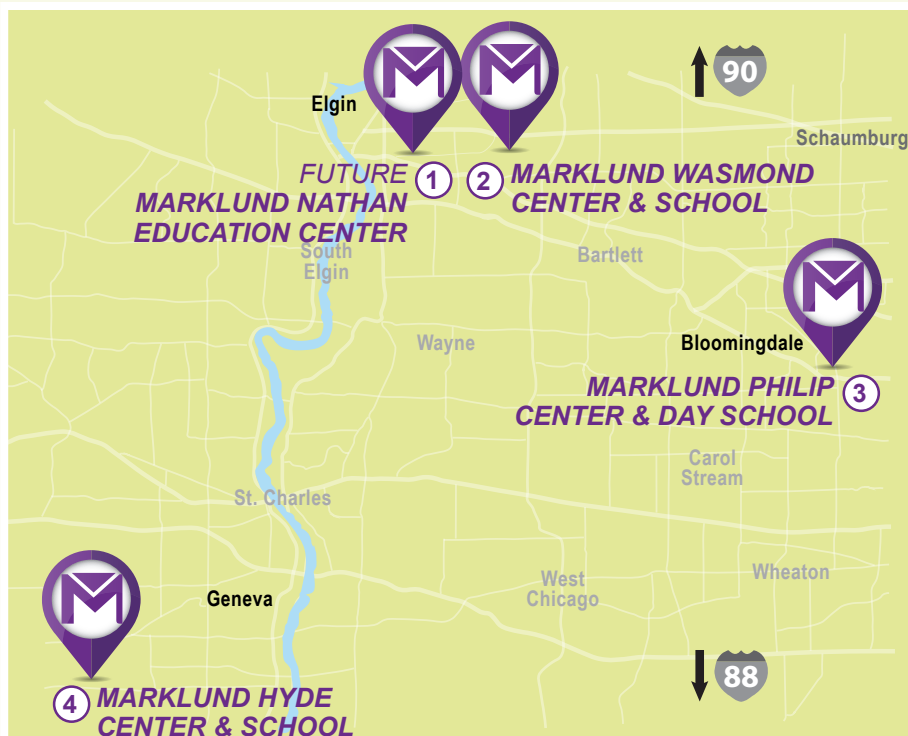
Your gift makes **FRIENDSHIP** *possible!*



There's still time to support our
Fiscal Year-End Appeal. Learn
about TC's story and how to
donate at www.marklund.org/give.

www.marklund.org/give





Marklund Locations

FUTURE SITE - MARKLUND NATHAN EDUCATION CENTER

1210 Hunter Dr., Elgin, Illinois 60120

MARKLUND WASMOND CENTER & SCHOOL

1435 Summit Street, Elgin, Illinois 60120

224.523.7530

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

MARKLUND PHILIP CENTER

164 S. Prairie Ave., Bloomington, Illinois 60108

630.529.287

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

MARKLUND MARKLUND PHILIP CENTER

164 S. Prairie Ave., Bloomington, Illinois 60108

630.307.1882

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 intellectual/developmental disabilities.

MARKLUND HYDE CENTER & SCHOOL

15450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, Illinois 60134

630.593.5500

Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) for adults. 25-acre campus includes six 16-bed residential homes for 96 adults, Community Day Services program for residents and day clients, on-site heated aquatic therapy pool, main administrative offices, therapy services, and Miracle League baseball field.

MARKLUND SCHOOL-GENEVA, Foglia Education Center

15450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, Illinois 60134

630.593.5500

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

1 MARKLUND NATHAN EDUCATION CENTER



2 MARKLUND WASMOND CENTER & SCHOOL



3 MARKLUND PHILIP CENTER & DAY SCHOOL



4 MARKLUND HYDE CENTER & SCHOOL





1S450 Wyatt Dr., Geneva, IL 60134



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



NOW HIRING!



Apply Today



**Nurses
Needed!**



WWW.MARKLUND.ORG

Marklund is seeking compassionate **Caregivers**, **CNAs**, and **Nurses** to join our growing team! If you are looking for a career with great benefits, paid trainings, a positive work environment, and the chance to make a difference - ***You Belong at Marklund!***