

Oct. 6, 2023

Board of Directors,

Here are a few highlights over the past month:

- Since my last report, Marklund has received **\$2.7M** from the State of Illinois. Our aging for Residential and Community Day Services, through September is **\$4.3M** (\$600K better than last month!). We are currently using **\$1.1M** of our \$10M line of credit.
- Our building plans for the **MWC expansion/renovation** were unanimously approved by the Elgin Planning & Zoning Commission on Sept 11. We are still waiting for a date to go before the City Council for final approval; we are hoping to meet with them this month. I will have an updated budget to send out prior to the board meeting.
- I have my annual “**Listening Tours**” set up for this month. Due to the pandemic this will be my first in-person meeting since 2019. I will be at each of our facilities to give staff an opportunity to meet with me and share their thoughts on a number of questions. So far, about 10% of our staff have signed up to attend one of the sites. We are also going to kick-off a major **retention campaign** in January, much like we did in 2018 that was so successful.
- One of the major topics that you commented on at the August Board Retreat was **Succession/Leadership Planning**. After going through an extensive search process over the past couple months, we selected a highly experienced consultant who will be specifically helping us in the transition process for the Pres/CEO, CFO and CDO positions over the next several years. I will share more at the Board meeting this month.
- After touring Director Piephoff (DHS-DDD) in August and following up a number of times regarding **Rule 115** we finally got an update on the waiver process. In the email that I received from her yesterday (10/5) she said that they “hope” to release the waiver process for Rule 115 in the “next couple of weeks.” I will give you the latest update at the Board meeting.
- We received the results of our annual **Parent/Guardian survey**. We received 88 surveys (71 last year!) which is over half of all parent/guardians, all responses are anonymous. This about the same number we had two year ago (89). With the closing of MPC in 2025, I was expecting a number of negative surveys. The results were a wonderful confirmation of our commitment to *making everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities*. Here are some of the key 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 – 98.9%
- Last call to register for the **Run, Walk & Roll 5K/1M in Geneva**...which is coming up a week from Sunday! To register, sponsor or create a team, please visit <https://p2p.onecause.com/2023-rwrgeneva/home>. The event date is **Sunday, October 15**, with an 8:30 AM start time.
- A big thanks to those of you who attended the **Leadership Giving Circle** event at the Nathan Education Center – **Jim Armbruster, Maleeha Basha, Carie Carney, Carol Donahue, Jerry Finis, Mike Herlihy, Laura Karlins and Ari Smith**. We truly have amazing supporters and friends, and it was great to host them at our exciting new facility.
- FCL Builders hosted its annual **Casino Night** fundraiser on September 14, and chose Marklund as their charitable benefactor. It was an amazing night of generosity by FCL employees, and their vendors and sponsors. Marklund was presented with a **\$150,000** check at the end of the evening by the FCL Cares Foundation; we were so grateful to be a part of such a wonderful event!
- This past Monday, **Tim Adkins** hosted his customers and vendors to a day of golf at Rich Harvest Farms, with all net proceeds going to Marklund. Thank you Tim, for your generosity, and for sharing your personal story and connecting that to your commitment to our mission. It was a unique opportunity to share the Marklund story with a new group of friends (& potential donors!).
- I have attached the digital brochure for **Top Hat** just in case you have individuals whom you would like to invite. The theme for this year is *A Royal Affair*...it will be an amazing night. Please be sure that Saturday, **February 10, 2024**, is on your calendar!
- The remaining board date for **2023** is: **October 26**. Here are the dates for **2024**: **January 25, April 4, May 23 (Finance), June 20, August 8** (Board Retreat - FEC), and **October 30**. Outlook invitations have been sent.

I look forward to seeing you later this month. Thank you for ALL you do for those we serve.

God bless you!

Gil

GILBERT FONGER  
President & CEO



*Making **everyday** life possible for individuals with profound disabilities*

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