

CARE

SPRING 2024

LETTER

A newsletter for those who care about Marklund



Chaquan happily works on a special art project, assisted by teacher Jennifer Riley.

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From the Desk of Gil Fonger, President & CEO

Marklund Family,

As we look forward to welcoming Spring 2024, I am proud to announce that Marklund is celebrating our **70th year of service this year!**

Our story began in 1954 when nurse Claire Haverkamp agreed to take a newborn baby – Mark William Lund – into her home to provide very specialized care. Mark was born with Down syndrome and significant cardiac issues. Since that time, thousands of children, youth and adults have been cared for through the services that a legacy of donors has made possible. (See history highlights in this CareLetter.)

Marklund currently serves 178 full-time residents, plus 25 community clients (which includes 7 in our new Bridge Builder program) and 74 students – that is a total of 277 individuals ranging in age from 7 to 71 – at our facilities in Bloomingdale, Elgin and Geneva. It might surprise you that it takes over 500 dedicated, caring staff to provide those services. **We have come a long way since our humble beginnings in 1954.**



I am also pleased to share progress on another dream that was developed as part of our M2030 Strategic Plan – the expansion and renovation of the Marklund Wasmond Center in Elgin that will start in just a few months. As you can see in the architect’s floor plan below, the \$16.5 million construction project will expand the center from 61 to 85 beds to serve more individuals who need our level of care. In addition, it will significantly upgrade our ability to provide care for individuals with even more complex healthcare needs. We look forward to completing the project in the Fall of 2025.

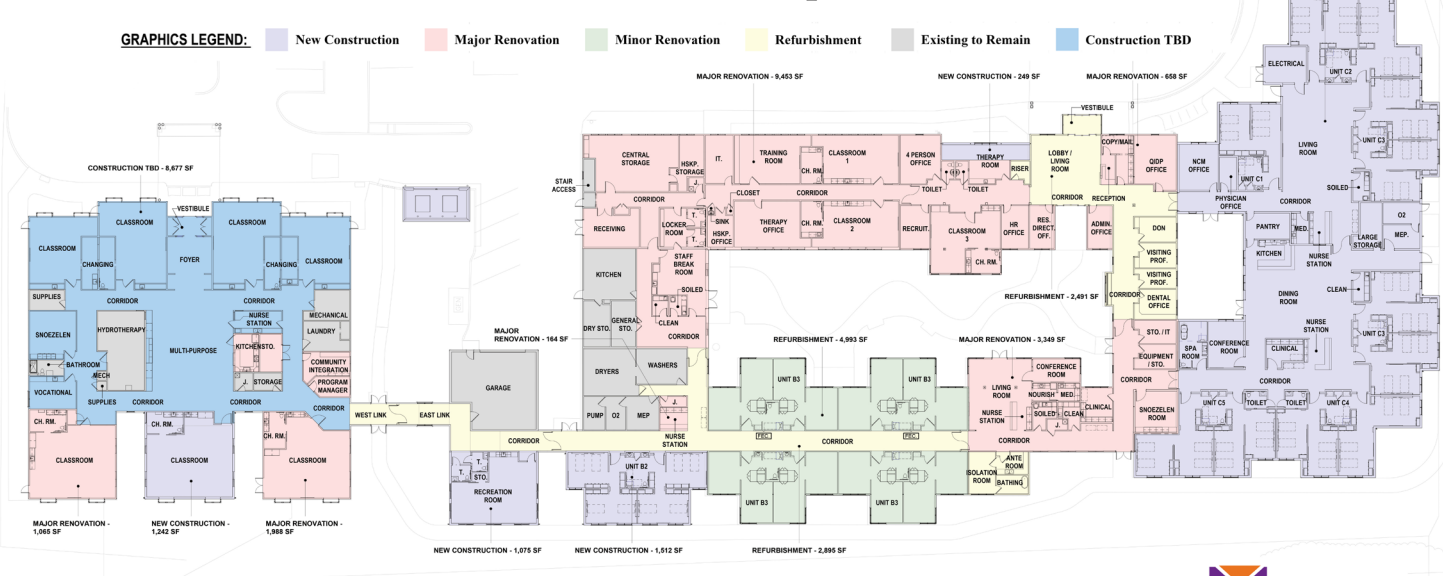
Projects such as these exemplify our commitment to the theme of our **M2030 strategy – Serving the Underserved** – where we identify a need and seek to meet it, much like our founder did, and fulfill our mission, our promise, to **make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities.**

God bless,

Gilbert W. Fonger, President & CEO



Marklund Wasmond Center Expansion - Renovation



Registration Now Open for Our Run, Walk & Roll - Bloomingdale 5K and 1-Mile Event



Runners, walkers, and wheelchair riders are gearing up to hit the pavement for Marklund's 7th Annual Run, Walk & Roll-Bloomingdale 5K and 1-Mile event. Registration is open for the walk/run which will be held on Sunday, April 21, starting and finishing at the Marklund Philip Center, 164 S. Prairie Ave., Bloomingdale.



"We are thrilled to be hosting our 7th Annual Run, Walk & Roll event in Bloomingdale," said Lauren Spitler, Community Events Manager and Race Director. "Seeing the neighboring communities embrace this event and support our mission is what makes this event so special. The event itself continues to grow in many ways, and while it is a fun, energy-filled morning of time together, the impact made by the funds raised last far beyond that one morning, and serve a much bigger purpose. I am so grateful to see our corner of the world come together in such a positive way!"

Start time is 8:30 a.m. with participants following a USATF-certified course. The event will conclude with an awards ceremony and the popular "Party in the Park."

Register today and find more event details at www.marklund.org/5K.



April 21, 2024
8:30 a.m. Start



164 S. Prairie Ave.
Bloomingdale



USATF-Certified
Course



Scan to Register
and Fundraise

Top Hat Ball – A Royal Success!

With net proceeds topping off over \$860,000, it was a night to remember!

Nearly 600 guests and volunteers attended “A Royal Affair: Marklund’s Annual Top Hat Ball” this past February at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, all in support of the children and adults served at Marklund.

Marklund’s signature fundraising gala radiated a majestic flair with women in flowing evening gowns, long gloves and sparkling tiaras, and men donning white ties and top hats with tuxedos. Royal staff including courtiers, beefeater guards, dancers, prince and footmen, as well as a King and Queen were on hand for entertainment and even photo ops by red velvet and gold thrones. Among the highlights of the extravagant castle-like decor were originally created “royal portraits” of many of Marklund donors and friends.

“It’s pure joy seeing this event come to life each year after an entire 12 months of planning,” said Jeannine Zupo, Director of Signature Events. “Twenty-eight years is an incredible lifespan for a charity gala and we keep going strong! On top of sharing our incredibly important mission, this event includes so many unexpected entertainment and decor activations surrounding the theme that keep guests coming back each year for more! It’s our obligation in life to make the world a better place than we found it, and that’s what our donors are doing each time they walk into the ballroom.”



Photos by Chris Guillen Photography

Watch the
new Top
Hat video.



Scan here
to see more
photos!



Marklund Friend of the Year

Congratulations to Jackie and Frank Murnane Jr., recipients of the Marklund 2024 *Friend of the Year* award.

The Murnanes, who reside in Wheaton, first connected with Marklund in 2008 by making a holiday donation, and have been generous donors and friends ever since!

While attending their first Marklund event—a Leadership Giving Circle reception in 2013—they not only met Marklund leadership, friends and fellow donors, but also John Lund, the father of Mark William Lund, the organization’s namesake. Frank and Jackie recall sitting with him and were so impressed that he presented a framed copy of his son’s birth certificate that evening. “That was our introduction—our first story with Marklund,” said Frank upon receiving the award.

“Everyone has a story about Marklund. As you get involved with Marklund, you see the passion, the thoughtfulness, the kindness that everybody shares—everyone contributes, and it’s been our pleasure to be a part of it and see the growth of Marklund from when we first got involved.”

Frank, Chairman of Murnane Companies, was asked to join the Marklund Board of Directors in 2015, engaging himself and Jackie even more with the Marklund mission. Their participation also introduced their children and close friends to events and activities on campus, as well as becoming regular attendees of the Top Hat Ball and Marklund Golf Classic. In 2018, Frank led the capital campaign efforts to build Marklund’s Foglia Education Center, the largest and most successful campaign in two decades. He was Chair of the Board during a global pandemic – tirelessly supporting Marklund leadership and fundraising efforts without missing a beat.

A decade after that first event, the Murnanes are more involved than ever, from opening their home for donor events, and serving on the Claire Haverkamp Commemorative Award selection committee which honors Marklund’s employee of the year, to bringing their children and grandchildren to the annual Run, Walk & Roll 5Ks and Christmas gift openings with residents.

Jackie & Frank Murnane with Resident Ambassador Heather D



“From the first time we met so many of the heroic individuals at Marklund, we came to understand that what everyone possesses becomes of double value when given the opportunity to share with others. We have never looked back and have been blessed time and time again by our association with and dedication to Marklund,” noted Jackie.

“We could not be more grateful or thankful for this honor to be bestowed upon us,” Frank added.



Past ‘Friend of the Year’ Recipients

Dating back to 1979, Marklund has honored a “Friend of the Year.” Each recipient—an individual, couple, family or company— has demonstrated in his/her/their own way, publicly or privately, a heart of gold and the willingness to serve Marklund’s infants, children and adults in ways that will affect their lives significantly, now and in the future.

Catie & Max Schmidt, 2023
Sandy & Mike Herlihy, 2022
Peg & John Haskins, 2021
Becky & John Duffey, 2020
David Pierro, 2019
Jeanne & George Webster, 2018
Aon, 2017
Karen J. Golden, 2016
Foglia Family Foundation, 2015
Bud & Jim Porter, 2014
Carol & Mike Donahue, 2013
Andrea Billhardt, 2012
Jean, Gary & Beth Lederer, 2011

Pam & George Rion, 2010
Greg Osko, 2009
Lynn & Jim Armbruster, 2008
Joel Thompson, 2007
Robert Paddock/Paddock Publications, 2006
Bruce Jensen & Gail Ludewig/Total Works, 2005
Kevin Acker/West Suburban Bank, 2004
Senator Pate Phillip, 2003
Everett Van Der Molen, 2002
Congressman Henry Hyde, 2001
Robert Bernard, 2000

Dennis Langley & Peter Cyrus, 1999
Senator Steven J. Rauschenberger, 1999
Robert Smetana, 1998
Gwendolyn S. Henry, 1998
Father John Guiney, 1997
James D. Anderson, 1996
Jean Jordan, 1995
Jim Ford, 1994
Dennis Zimmerman, 1993
Michael Brenan, 1992
Richard Theriault, 1991
Gale Sayers, 1990
John P. Frazee, 1989

Birger Nyborg, 1988
Paul Greening, 1987
Thomas O. Myers, Jr., 1986
Doris Whitney, 1985
Erhardt Weidmann, 1984
Richard Rathman, 1983
Edwin Deicke, 1982
Hiriam Sibley, 1981
Henry Okner, M.D., 1980
Hiram Sibley, 1979



Resident Art on E

While walking past the CBRE/Neiman Marcus building in downtown Chicago, visitors can see a special message displayed on the large lobby window:



Participating in an exhibit of this magnitude in the Windy City is exciting for Marklund's residents, community clients and students. The opportunity arose as a collaboration between CBRE, Live Art International and Marklund. CBRE enjoys presenting artwork from charitable organizations in its well-visited lobby, and Live Art International had worked with Marklund in providing artists for fundraising events in the past. It recommended Marklund for this late-winter event.

"We heard about this exciting opportunity and checked with our Therapy team to see if they would be interested," said Heather Graves, Chief Development Officer. "With everyone on board, even with a short time frame, the pieces just fell into place."



"I had the idea of doing abstract art, so it was easier for the residents to paint and participate in. If things didn't go as planned, it would still be abstract. Two-thirds of the paintings turned out as I anticipated, but the Stay in Your Lane turned out different. I had one idea for the background, and as we started, the designs we made with the scraper turned out differently and we just went with it—next thing you know, it turned into our own art piece. For us it was more than painting, we worked with the residents and students on reaching, tolerating hand-over-hand guidance, attending, visually tracking items, focusing on items (canvas), range of motion, etc."

– Brittany Maertzig, Marklund Wasmond Center



"I was expecting to achieve the spring-themed paintings with adapted equipment as well as the help from my fellow therapy team members. The paintings turned out different than my original vision, but better than I could have imagined or hoped for – the students made it their own! They worked on the painting during recreation therapy sessions throughout the school day. To assist them, we used hand-over-hand assist, large and wide paint brushes, a handheld shower squeegee, sponges, and later we connected the shower squeegee to a "goose neck," which is a long bendable mount, with duct tape so that students in wheelchairs could reach all the way across the canvas while painting."

– Mara Dunn, Foglia Education Center at Marklund Day School-Geneva



The Therapy team hand-selected several residents, community clients and students from each Marklund location to help with this project make choices in choosing which color they wanted and which size paint brush, and those that were visually attentive to the canvas, having participate!" shared Celia.

Therapy Team Artists:

Wesley Kochan
Mara Dunn
Celia Padilla
Brittany Maertzig
Matthew Medick

Susie Reardon
Amrita Singh
Gunjan Patel
Jenny Banuelos
Sandi Adamowicz

Jennifer Riley
Norma Pepsnik
Jill Bradley
April Smith
Michelle Sosa

Resident, Student, Client Artists:

Mohammad Y
Maggie D
Lily M
Makaila D
Kyle H
Nicky D
Kahlen S
Charity P
Langley F
Tiernan M
Lylian G
Sarah B
Jason B
Reanna M
Makiah H
Amyia J

Exhibit in Chicago

CBRE commissioned the exhibit through the Marklund Development Team, also providing a generous stipend for supplies and framing. The Recreational Therapy staff then got the ball rolling with selecting artists among the Marklund residents, community clients and students. Ideas were formed, colors chosen, and then the unique process of Marklund-style creativity and execution began.

Choosing the theme "Awaiting Spring," the Rec Therapists each had a vision for their projects, but as what often happens with art, the plans changed as the process took over. Spending nearly 50 hours over four weeks, the teams used various techniques that included brush painting with brushes of all widths, sponge painting, scrape art, drip painting, squeegee art, block painting with taped-off sections, and even rolling objects through paint that was plopped on the canvas.

The result is 13 beautiful, large paintings, ranging in style from Impressionist to Abstract, to mimicking the recognizable styles of Monet, Picasso and Jackson Pollack.



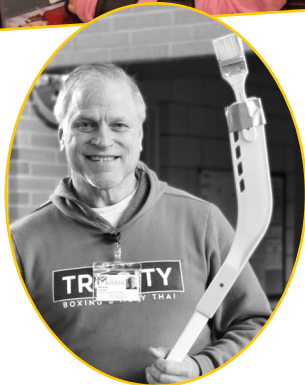
"Our expectations were to work with residents/clients and come up with wonderful artwork that can be creatively done using their motor patterns combined with adaptive techniques and equipment. We met the objective. To assist the residents, modifications were made to traditional art techniques. Being able to help them reach the canvases with the brush was done with a combination of attachments, like securing a brush to a lightweight hockey stick. And we worked on doing brush stroke patterns that fit their motor patterns such as laterally, side to side. Also, areas were sometimes taped-off so after painting and removing the tape, nice symmetrical shapes and lines were achieved."

– Wesley Kochan,
Marklund Hyde Center



"To assist the residents and students, I attached brushes to rulers or to water squirters since many can't fully extend their arms. With those modifications, we then helped them paint with hand-over-hand assist from teachers, aides and therapists. Matt, the Occupational Therapist, built this spinning buckets contraption for one of the paintings to create splatter art. The students helped pour paint into a bucket and then we would spin the bucket to create the splattered effect. For another piece, I used real leaves in order to create stamps to press on the canvas. In the end, they all turned out very different than what I had originally intended. That was part of the fun though!"

– Celia Padilla,
Marklund Philip Center



Criteria included those that enjoy art and had some upper extremity movement, some who could not, and some who had the ability to remain calmly focused or at least relaxed. "If I could have, I would've had everyone"

- | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| Connor P | Michele H | Claire D | Rosemarie K | Rosie W | Dylin B |
| Andrew B | Travis H | George F | Mary C | Jenna V | Brian R |
| Cassidy K | Kirsten B | Nick C | Sam T | Mac S | Dina Z |
| Matthew P | Ryan F | Darren W | Niko P | Octavia T | |
| Samantha S | Jacob H | Kandace B | Kirsten J | Ashley H | |
| Riannah F | Joy P | Dawn M | Tish S | Akira W | |
| Lauren I | Megan K | Mirella G | Mike B | Symone U | |
| Joseph C | Kitt Z | Anna H | Rosie B | Asia W | |



M2030 Strategic Plan Update...

M2030 is our strategic plan which will guide us through this decade. Like our founder, Claire Haverkamp, when we see a need, we respond to it! **Our goal is to serve the underserved** and we plan to do that through expansion, renovation and enhanced program services. We want to serve more people who need us, by developing new programs that will help us fulfill our mission and vision.

In FY2023, we were able to complete the following projects:

Maintenance Garage and Offices, Geneva

The new Maintenance Building at the Hyde Center features offices, storage, and a large garage area to meet the growing demands of our Maintenance Department. The department oversees eight buildings, 119,000 square feet of residential facilities, office space, and a fleet of vehicles.



Nathan Education Center, Elgin

This new 16,000-square-foot building expanded our ability to serve community-based individuals. The building features five classrooms dedicated to the Marklund Day School Life Skills Program, serving students in pre-k and above on the Autism spectrum. It also houses our new "Bridge Builder" program, a Community Day Services Program for adults on the Autism spectrum that have aged out of the school system and are still in need of support services. The Bridge Builder Program provides life-skills development, pre-employment skills, and vocational training.



November 2022

December 2022

May 2023

June 2023



Aquatic Therapy Locker Room Addition, Geneva

The addition to the Aquatic Therapy Center at the Geneva campus added four, full-service locker rooms, two locker rooms for residents and two for staff, which provides easy access to the pool and much needed privacy for the residents, staff and volunteers. The expansion also created additional space for the therapeutic services team. Over 150 aquatic therapy sessions take place each month!



Project Playground, Elgin

An inclusive and adaptive playground opened at the Wasmond Center in Elgin for the 61 children and adult residents to enjoy! The playground consists of an accessible merry-go-round, sensory percussion garden, and water feature area.

& Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report

GIVING BY THE NUMBERS

\$5,780,695

Total Amount Given



724

New Donors



2,208

Total Number of Donors



476

Leadership Giving Circle Members



4,498

Total Number of Gifts

\$593

Average annual gift from individuals

86% OF DONORS made gifts of \$1,000 or less

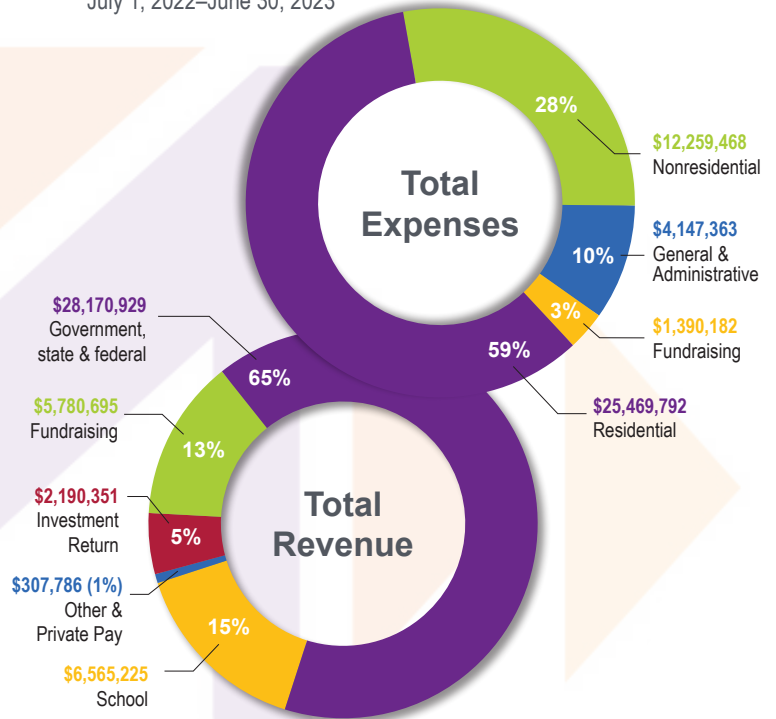


87¢

of every dollar go to program services

2023 Financial Summary

July 1, 2022–June 30, 2023



Fundraising Revenue

70%

Individuals

16%

Corporate/Foundation

14%

Special Events



Where we are going...

Wasmond Center Expansion!

Marklund is excited to announce our plan to renovate and expand the Wasmond Center in Elgin. This facility serves children and adults with profound disabilities and complex medical needs. We are one of only eight organizations in the state that provide these types of services. This was a monumental decision for the future of Marklund and those we serve.

The 20,000-square-foot expansion project will include space for an additional 24 beds, allowing us to increase our residential capacity to 85 individuals! It will also allow us to expand the acuity level of our services by providing 24-hour vent care. The expansion also includes the addition of a recreation room, sensory room, several nurses' stations, spa room and Community Day Service classrooms.

The project is scheduled to start in spring 2024 and we expect it to be complete by summer 2025.

A Return to Near-Normal Holidays

Open houses, gift openings, and carolers, OH MY! We were SO happy to have a near-normal holiday season after three years! There were a few face masks worn here and there but fortunately our residents experienced the fun of the holidays throughout December as families, friends and volunteers pulled out all the stops to share the holiday spirit like the good old days!



Looking Back...

Est. 1954
70 Marklund
 70th Anniversary Celebration



As we celebrate our 70th year of service, we look back at Marklund's history, which is filled with inspiring stories of amazingly resilient people. People, like Claire Haverkamp—a nurse who wanted to do more with her life—her husband Stan, who believed in her and the cause—and their children, Carla and Rick, who also supported the dream, welcoming more and more new “foster siblings” into their family.

It all started with accepting Mark into their Northlake home, and as word spread, the care soon expanded to 13

babies with special needs. By 1957, the Haverkamps purchased land and built the new location in Bloomingdale, first named Mark Lund Hilltop Home, and today called the Marklund Philip Center.

Little did they know what was coming...



CLAIRE AND STAN HAVERKAMP WITH MARK LUND

Mark Lund Hilltop Home: A First Look

- Six nurseries specializing in care for up to 48 newborns
- Six nurses for around-the-clock care; plus growing number of volunteers
- Haverkamps live in lower level of 2-story home but soon move to neighboring home
- Stan is the chief cook, preparing and pureeing all meals from scratch
- Hundreds of diapers washed weekly
- No state funding at first; in fact the state doesn't even know how to classify this kind of care
- Becomes first private skilled pediatric nursing facility

Meet our Board Members



Jim Armbruster
Member since 2004

Jim is proud to be a 4th-generation resident from Aurora, IL. He is the Owner of ATMI Precast, a full-service precast construction company based in Aurora.

Over his tenure with the Marklund Board of Directors, Jim has served on various committees and in every role, with the exception of Board Chair.

What inspired you to get involved with the developmental disabilities arena and specifically the Marklund Board of Directors?

My wife, Lynn, and I had a son who was a resident at Marklund for 20 years. So, it is personal for us and our family.

In June, 2023, Marklund opened the Nathan Education Center in Elgin, named in honor of Jim and Lynn's son.

What do you admire most about the Marklund mission/vision?

It's about the clients and the care.

What are your goals/priorities as a board member?

To provide Value and Experience.

What do you enjoy most about serving on the Marklund Board of Directors or favorite experience so far?

This board has had a long journey and has evolved into a very robust and engaged group today. The relationships that have been created over the last 37 years in both staff and the board has been the reward!

In 2007, Jim took a 2,360-mile journey walking from Aurora to San Francisco to celebrate those who headed west many years before and to raise funds for "Marklund's Kids." The trip took six months and successfully concluded after a walk across the Golden Gate Bridge with his family and friends who came out to celebrate his accomplishment.

"My wish is that everyone is able to find their walk in life."—Jim Armbruster's Daily Journal, Oct. 6, 2007.



The Illinois House of Representatives recognized Jim for his fundraising walk.



Dr. Maleeha Basha
Member since 2023

Dr. Basha is a Naperville-based physician with nearly 30 years of experience in the medical field. After medical school, she completed two residency programs at Howard University Hospital in Washington DC. A member of the American College of Physicians and the American Medical Association, Dr. Basha is board-certified in internal medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

What inspired you to get involved with the developmental disabilities arena and specifically the Marklund Board of Directors?

My husband and I wanted to show our daughters what it is to volunteer and give. We wanted to show them they are privileged in that they have the ability to make wise decisions and be good people. So, we searched and found Marklund and started volunteering ourselves along with my daughters. As life went on, we became closer and are blessed to be contributing to its vision.

What do you admire most about the Marklund mission/vision?

I admire the Mission and Vision's commitment to providing a nurturing and inclusive environment for individuals with developmental disabilities. Their focus on enhancing the quality of life and promoting independence is truly commendable.

What is a priority for you as a Board Member?

It has been rewarding to contribute to the organization's overall mission and vision, provide guidance and support, and help make informed decisions that benefit the individuals Marklund serves. I can understand the importance of supporting individuals with developmental disabilities and the impact quality care can have on their lives.

Although I am fairly new to the Board, I personally feel blessed and grateful for being part of a team that is dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of the children and adults served by Marklund.

See their stories at
www.marklund.org/ourstories

Save the Dates!



April 21



June 1



June 6



June 8



June 15



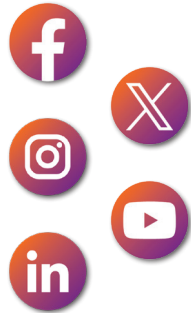
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CARELETTER

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

A new adventure is calling at



We are hiring teachers and paraprofessionals for our Day Schools.

ANSWER THE CALL AND APPLY TODAY!

Scan the QR code or visit www.marklund.org/careers

