



MILESTONE INC.

Building Lives • Building Futures

MATTERS

Newsletter For The Friends & Supporters of MILESTONE, Inc.

WINTER 2018 CONTENTS



A Family Defined by Love
3

Therapy Dogs Visit
4

Sophie's Place
5

Special Olympics Update
6

MILESTONE Wish List
7

RocVale's Boy Scout Troop
8

MEETING EACH PERSON'S NEEDS

MILESTONE's mission is to help each Individual reach their fullest potential, and sometimes that means bringing programs to them. As many of the individuals in MILESTONE's care age, their needs change and they can no longer attend Day Training at MILESTONE Industries or at the MILESTONE Training Center. Which is why MILESTONE started to provide Day Training services at Elmwood Heights, for the Individuals who required more nursing care during the day along with those who have difficulty participating in the other Day Training programs.



Currently 38 Individuals are in the program because of medical needs ranging from the monitoring of oxygen to repositioning needs and tube feedings.

Many of the activities fill the

Individual's sensory needs and this past month included making apple cinnamon fragrance jars and collages with items found outside for everyone at Elwood Heights to use.



There are also community outings, which include trips to the grocery store to buy the supplies for cooking and learning how to make snacks for everyone, along with trips to Target to buy craft supplies. Some of the outings are just for fun like going out to eat or to the Apple Orchard.

These individuals also help with gardening and work on Individualized programs developed by the staff to help teach skills.





FROM THE DESK OF SHAWN WAY, MILESTONE PRESIDENT AND CEO

December 2018

Friends of MILESTONE:

Forty five years ago, Jim Hamilton was hired as the first staff member of MILESTONE, Inc. Jim was hired as the Executive Director of an agency with one employee, \$500 in the bank, and an apartment building at 620 Kishwaukee Street that was mortgaged to the hilt. His charge, as directed by the MILESTONE, Inc. Board of Directors, was to develop residential and vocational services for a handful of intellectually and developmentally disabled adults that otherwise would have been institutionalized. Institutionalization is how we treated the intellectually and developmentally disabled in this state and in throughout much of this country in 1973.

Jim subsequently developed MILESTONE, Inc. into one of the crown jewels in the state of Illinois. He was instrumental in developing and expanding services through the construction of our Elmwood Heights campus in 1979. He dramatically changed the service model through the modernization of systems and integration of the individuals we serve through the acquisition and construction of over 30 group homes in and around Rockford. His vision led to the merger and consolidation of the RocVdvale Children's Home into the MILESTONE network, thus ensuring its operation for the benefit of children at risk of further institutionalization. He sought funding to develop the first of its kind dental clinic designed especially to cater to the individuals we serve.

In 45 years, Jim has touched the lives of thousands of intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals, whose quality of life took a turn for the better when Jim entered their lives. But, the things that have not changed are the need for our services and the need for support from donors like you.

As we celebrate 45 years, we hope you will consider a generous donation to MILESTONE, to honor Jim and all he and the dedicated staff of MILESTONE have done.

Blessings to you and your family this holiday season, and thanks for all you do to support the mission of MILESTONE.

Sincerely

Shawn Way



A FAMILY DEFINED BY LOVE



A member of RocVale’s staff watched as Christmas came and went, birthdays came and went and 6 year old Jason sat and watched the other children open cards and gifts, but sadly he never received

any cards and or presents from his family. Beth also saw that no one ever came to visit and he never went on home visits. She did some checking and found out that Jason’s father was his Guardian, but he had been raised by his grandmother. So Beth asked if she could take him home for dinner and on holidays, she and Jason started to form a very special bond and eventually she became his special friend. She made sure he had presents



on his birthday and at Christmas. Over time the bond grew and Beth and Jason regarded each other as family, so when Jason turned 18 Beth started the process to become his guardian. Jason’s mother and grandmother fully supported the decision and wrote



a letter of support to the court. When Jason turned 21 and graduated from Page Park School, it was time for some decisions to be made. Both Jason and Beth wanted him to move into one of the MILESTONE Adult Group Homes, but there were no appropriate openings, so he moved into another facility and started working at The Center of Hope. But Beth did not give up and after about 13 months there was an opening at MILESTONE. After a few visits both Beth



and Jason decided it was the perfect place for him to live. Jason is now 35 and he knows Beth’s home is his home, and her son is part of his family. Jason loves traveling to Florida with Beth and spending time swimming and enjoying the ocean. But he also enjoys going out to eat with the guys he lives

with and attending sporting events with them. Beth said when she first met Jason he had no one, but now they have each other and her son. She has made sure Jason gets everything he needs and has fought to get him proper medical care. She says if she has one word of advice for other parents and guardians it is to never give up. Just because one door won’t open, or one medical provider says no does not mean they all will, she says just keep fighting, because you are fighting for what is best for your loved one.

MILESTONE MISSION STATEMENT

“Everyone has the right to be treated with respect, to participate in community life, to develop and exercise personal competence, to have family and friends, and to make decisions in their lives.” MILESTONE, Inc. exists to ensure that persons with developmental disabilities can exercise these same rights.



SAYING GOOD BYE TO SUMMER

In celebration of both MILESTONE's 45th anniversary and the end of summer the Ice Cream truck visited Elmwood Heights. Everyone enjoyed a special treat as they said hello to fall and goodbye to summer.



A FALL TRADITION CONTINUES

The Artists at MILESTONE Industries enjoyed the fall weather while showing off their creations at Edgebrook's annual Cider and Cinnamon

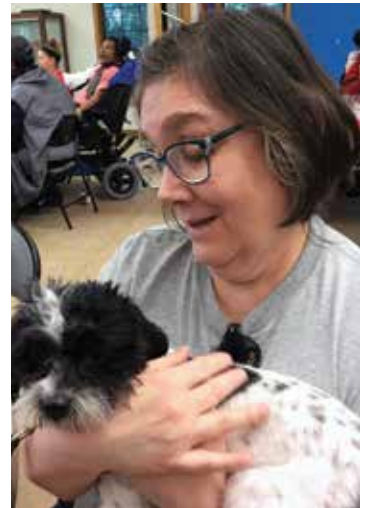


Art Show. The blankets, pillows and cards and other items were a huge hit with the shoppers.



THERAPY DOGS VISIT

There were smiles on the faces of many Individuals when Therapy dogs visited with them. Molly and Miss Keanu also enjoyed the visits and showed it with nonstop tail wags.





THANK YOU FOR HELPING SOPHIE'S PLACE

Thank you for supporting Sophie's Place at RocVale. The home of MILESTONE's new Art, Music and Speech Therapy programs that are offered several days a week. MILESTONE's mission is to help each individual in our care reach their fullest potential and live as independent a life as possible. This is especially important for the children at RocVale. These 3 new programs are designed to teach the skills needed so the children can grow to be successful adults. Focusing on creating a painting can help a child with autism learn the critical skills needed to handle a stressful situation, while listening to music can help another child stop aggressive behavior. The key is finding what will unlock the power of art and music for each child.



THANK YOU SOPHIE'S PLACE DONORS:

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Anderson
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Taylor Carlin
 Ms. Barbara Erickson
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom Humphris
 Ms. Sharon Heinzeroth
 Mr. and Mrs. John Hovis
 Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Lash
 Ms. Anna Roeser
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Landi
 Mrs. Kay Freeman
 Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Robert
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Casey
 Ms. Joanne Swinson
 Mr. Steven Meyers
 Dr. and Mrs. Paul Klazura
 Mrs. Shirley Ann Tudor
 Ms. Marian Bonavia
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Trepanier
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald McCanse
 Mr. and Mrs. John Holmbeck
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven Bartscher
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark Dahlgren
 Ms. Rebecca Sheehan
 Ms. Deanna Murray
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Riportella
 Ms. Constance St. Angel
 Mr. Mark Daniel Guminski

Mr. Dave Kreissler
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard DeLuca
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Carter
 Mr. Edward Cwyner
 Ms. Shirlee Famighette
 Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Grall
 Ms. Gail Coffler
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vigna
 Mr. Bill Coughlin
 Ms. Cindy Hall
 Mr. Judd Gastel
 Ms. Betsy Frost
 Mr. Donald Ufkin
 Mr. and Mrs. David Moore
 Mr. and Mrs. J.F. Heckinger
 Mr. and Mrs. Kent Heise
 Mr. Donald Ladenberger
 Ms. Kathy Lonergan
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Casper
 Mr. Karl Biggs
 Mr. David Larson
 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Agnew
 Mr. Anthony Capriola Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. John Petticrew
 VFW-Watch City Auxiliary #1307
 Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Todora
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary Hoover
 Mr. Fred Spear



SPECIAL OLYMPICS UPDATE

BOWLING

Forty four athletes Bowled at the Cherrybowl in Rockford for the Region A bowling singles and doubles competition. The 11 gold medalists will advance to the next level.

Two ramp bowlers also earned gold medals in their competition.

VOLLEYBALL

The Unified and Modified Volleyball teams traveled to LaGrange for the Region A Volleyball qualifier.

The Unified team placed third and the modified team advanced to the fall games after winning the gold.

WINTER PROGRAMS

Athletes are also busy training for Snow shoe events and the basketball skills tournaments.

FALL GAMES AT HARLEM HIGH SCHOOL

The gym at Harlem High School was packed with both Athletes and Spectators for the Fall Tournament. MILESTONE's volleyball team played great and won the silver medal.



BOWLING MEDAL COUNT

- 11 gold
- 5 silver
- 3 bronze
- 4 - 4th places
- 9 - 5th places

HELPING THE FISH-ABLED FOUNDATION

Lenny, Jake, Sean enjoy attending events sponsored by the Fish-Abled Foundation and wanted to lend a helping hand, so they raised money by making and selling their special Root Beer floats at the main MILESTONE buildings.

The Fish-Abled Foundation is a nonprofit group that helps disabled people participate in and attend social activities such as baseball games, fishing outings, concerts and bowling outings — all free of charge.

MILESTONE, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) Illinois not-for-profit organization. MILESTONE Matters is developed to inform the public of the program services we offer to developmentally disabled citizens from Northern Illinois. To learn more about MILESTONE and the individuals we serve, please call (815) 654-6100.

President and CEO: M. Shawn Way
MILESTONE Matters Editor: Arles Hendershott
Copyright © 2018 by MILESTONE, inc.

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

10 years	Regine Kilbert	October	20 years	Tisha White	October
	Arreane Toney	November			
	Renee Cazy	November	25 years	Millie Baymon	October
	Jamice Young	November		Reginald Parham	November
15 years	Courtney Udelhofen	October	30 years	Philip Batchelor	October
	Kimberly Knuckles	October		Diane Alexander	November
	Cynthia Garrett	December		Stanley Posley	December



MILESTONE'S HOLIDAY WISH LIST

Please consider helping with one or more of these projects by making a designated donation. Call the Development Office at (815) 639-2965 if you would like more information on any of the items



ROCVALE CHILDREN'S HOME

- Outdoor Sensory/Water Fountain \$5,000
- Outdoor Sensory Equipment \$10,000
- New Furniture 5 Homes @ \$4,000 \$20,000
- One Month of Art, Speech and Music Therapy \$1,500



MILESTONE TRAINING CENTER

- Outside Recreation Area Upgrades \$2,000
- Sensory Equipment 12 Classrooms @ \$3000 \$36,000
- Adult 3 Wheel Bike \$500

MILESTONE INDUSTRIES

- iPads 4 @ \$400 \$1,600
- Various Educational Materials \$3,000



ELMWOOD HEIGHTS SPECIALIZED CARE FACILITY

- Adaptive Swing Set with Wheel Chair Swing \$8,000
- Medical Equipment \$10,000
- Positioning Slings 40 @ \$275 \$11,000

- Replacement Doors 6 @ \$3,500 \$21,500

- Sensory Equipment 6 Homes @ \$5,000 \$30,000

- Patio Door Replacements for Homes \$40,000

- Bedroom/Bathroom Remodels and Upgrades in Each Home 6 @ \$10,000 \$60,000

- Sensory Walking Path \$15,000

- Replacement Carpet for Two Homes \$20,000
- EZ lifts 5 @ \$8,000 \$40,000

- EZ Lift Replacement Batteries 10 @ \$100 \$1,000

- Bedroom/Bathroom Remodels and Upgrades for Six Homes @ \$10,000 \$60,000

- Replacement Windows for Six Homes @ \$15,000 \$80,000

ELMWOOD EAST

- Outdoor Water/Sensory Fountain \$5,000

- Enclosed Patio \$10,500

- Replacement Windows for Home \$20,000

ADULT GROUP HOMES

- Van Stairs 5 @ \$200 \$1,000

- Slings for EZ-stand 3 @ \$350 \$1,050

- Patio \$1,500

- iPads 4 @ \$400 \$1,600

- Exercise Equipment \$2,550

- Support Railings \$3,000

- Washer and Dryer 6 @ \$1,000 \$6,000

- Screened Porch or 3 Season Room at 1 Group Home \$7,000

- Carports at 2 Group Homes \$11,000

- New Furniture 10 Homes @ \$4,000 \$40,000

- Bathroom Renovations 2 @ \$30,000 \$60,000



MILESTONE DENTAL CLINIC

- Waiting Room Furniture 2 Loveseats and 12 Chairs \$10,000

- Upgrade Digital X-Ray System \$35,000

- Parking Lot Repair and Repaving \$40,000



AGENCY WIDE

- AED Training Units \$2,000

- Robo-Coupe Commercial Food Processor 2 @ \$1,900 \$3,800

- 24 Chairs for Training Room \$4,000

- Smart Board and Stand for Training Room \$6,100

- Standing Cooler for Main Kitchen \$32,000

- 12 and 15 Passenger Vans 9 @ \$30,000 \$270,000

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

- Equipment and Travel Expenses \$5,000

MILESTONE

INC.

Building Lives • Building Futures



Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Permit #640
Rockford, IL

4060 McFarland Road
Rockford, IL 61111

Address Service Requested



MILESTONE MATTERS

WINTER 2018



GRANT PROVIDES FUNDING FOR ROCVALE'S BOY SCOUT TROOP

A generous grant from the William S. Howard Charitable Trust will continue to provide funding for the Boy Scout program at RocVale Children's Home. The program provides many educational and social opportunities for the boys who enjoy the many activities. The William S. Howard Charitable Trust was established in 1982 as the charitable component of the companies of William Charles, Ltd.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

Over 25 men take part in the Adult Group Home Boy Scout Activities at MILESTONE. This year activities include a special dinner recognizing the 30th anniversary of Varsity Troop 360. In the spring, summer and fall the troop attends various sporting events which include Rockford Rivets baseball games, American Legion Baseball in Beloit, WI, usually a trip to Rockford Speedway, and Rockton Rush football. They also attend camp at Camp Lowden where the guys plan and make wonderful meals, get in a lot of hiking, and nature observation as well as some spirited card games. One Troop member earned his Eagle Scout designation after completing a volunteer project for Klehm Arboretum.

