



Wingspan Life Resources
30 East Plato Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55107

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2022 Power of Love

Luncheon at the
Metropolitan Ballroom
Tuesday, June 7th

Our Mission

Inspiring community by empowering
people impacted by disabilities
to live their best life.

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A Labor of Love

CELEBRATING OUR 48th YEAR



2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends,

Standing shoulder-to-shoulder with some of the long-term staff at 1489 Hoyt House pictured on the front of this report made me especially appreciate the fact that we have many employees who have served Wingspan for decades. Even in a “normal year,” our work presents challenges and opportunities each day, and this pandemic continues to strain financial and human resources.

The past year has been anything but “normal,” and the unexpected has become the expected. I continue to be humbled by the dedication, the creativity, and the resiliency of our staff. The compassion to serve is as important as the skills required to care for people who may have a number of intellectual and physical challenges.

Due to the staffing crisis, which was well underway even before COVID-19, many of our employees have made selfless efforts to go above and beyond to keep our clients and their coworkers as safe as possible. Many have grown weary from picking up double or triple shifts during times when coworkers had to quarantine when the pandemic attempted to overwhelm some of our group homes. Some staff even had to move in to our group homes in order to minimize the chance of carrying a virus back and forth and inadvertently compromising the health of others. I am grateful for each and every member of our Wingspan family for the important role they have played.



*Angela O'Neill &
Therese Davis*

One thing that has remained constant as I reflect on my past 44 years with Wingspan is the willingness of staff to shine as beacons of light even when times are dark. When day programs had to shut down, finding ways to keep clients entertained at home for months on end required patience, creativity, and a willingness to lead. Our Program Directors, House Coordinators and DSPs found innovative ways to

bring a little joy to each day with exercise routines, games, art and baking contests and more. Other members of our Plato staff utilized technology to keep our clients connected with us and with each other through a variety of fun, daily sessions via Zoom. Our nurse, Stacy Jacobsen, worked tirelessly to stay connected with the CDC and the Minnesota Department of Health to keep us updated with information and to instruct us on ever-changing protocols.

This year, some people very dear to me and to our Wingspan Family retired. The good news is we are certain that they will always be part of our family. We offer an abundance of gratitude and good wishes to Frank Merrill (34 years of service) and Maureen Merrill (47 years of service), House Coordinator Mary Austin (34 years of service), and to our longest serving DSP, Debi Rattler (35 years of service). Their gifts have truly been a labor of love.

The reality is, we are not out of the woods yet, and we are not sure when the pandemic surge will recede. We had hoped to be able to resume gathering in person by now. Our clients have missed being able to come to our Plato campus for the summer carnival, birthday parties, and special activities such as Glee Glub and Spoken Word & Poetry. Canceling Made in the Shade and Magnolia Ball for the second year in a row has also been disheartening. We really appreciate our Wingspan families, sponsors, and donors for the support and generosity this past year. Thank you in advance for considering Wingspan as you make your year-end charitable contributions.

We wish you a happy healthy holiday season.

Therese Davis
Executive Director



Frank Merrill



Maureen Merrill



Mary Austin



Debi Rattler

“We rise by lifting others” Robert Ingersoll

Spreading Our Wings-

Wingspan's Specialized Services Unit

In addition to Residential and In-Home Services, Wingspan Life Resources continues to respond to community needs by extending its reach. The Specialized Community Supports (SCS) unit, under the leadership of Director of Special Services Camille Willner, not only includes crisis respite homes such as Harmony House, but will provide long-term residential care and supports in homes, such as Hope House, for adults with significant behavioral challenges that have not found success in traditional long-term placement.

Additional training in crisis prevention, intervention, and resolution is provided for staff assigned to SCS. Homes may be modified to meet the needs of those residing there.

Harmony House, which received its first client in February of 2018, is Wingspan's first crisis respite home for **short-term** care and intervention strategies. It provides:

- For relief and support of the caregiver and protection of the person or others living with the person
- For a person's need for behavioral or medical intervention



Harmony House

A person is eligible to receive crisis respite services when caregivers and service providers are not able to provide necessary intervention and protection of the person or others living with that person. Crisis respite services allow the person to avoid institutional placement.

Hope House, purchased in June of 2021, is the first of what may be several Wingspan **long-term care** homes planned to accommodate clients with increased needs including needs that may be influenced by more challenging behaviors:

- Unique strategies allow them to be more successful in a residential setting designed for up to two clients. These clients may not thrive as well in a typical group home setting (which have an average of 4 clients) due to the unique attributes of their highly specialized care plan.
- Person-centered support is continuously adapted to the individual with their input
- Success-oriented strategies include positive reinforcement

A person is eligible for Specialized Community Supports if he or she is on one of the following waivers:

- Brain Injury (BI)
- Community Alternative Care (CAC)
- Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI)
- Developmental Disabilities (DD)

Crisis respite clients are referred to Wingspan through Metro Crisis Coordination Program (MCCP) (952) 767-3125. Other specialized service clients are referred to Wingspan through the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) or through a family member.



Hope House

1489 Hoyt House

Compassion and Collaboration

Collectively, the 8 staff members who provide care to the residents of 1489 Hoyt have nearly 140 years of service, including 3 staff who have been with Wingspan for over 20 years.

Together they've formed a special bond with clients Mike, Barb, and Bill. House Coordinator Mary Austin shares that the clients love going on vacations, going out to eat at any restaurant, going to any lake, taking long rides, and going shopping – especially at the Dollar Store. They also love tie-dyeing shirts – and underwear to match! Anything to keep things fun! Staff also make sure Bill gets to his job on time – Bill has worked at Lunds & Byerlys in Highland Park for 24 years.



Mike, Barb & Bill

“I really admire how well the team at 1489 Hoyt works together, and I attribute this to Mary’s leadership style,” says Therese Davis. “She not only serves with grace and compassion, but she gives her team the flexibility to work out any scheduling issues. They really support one another. That consistency makes a big difference – understanding each client’s needs and unique personalities.”

DSP Femi Obikoya just celebrated his 25th year with Wingspan. He says, “I appreciate my supervisor and the clients.” That sentiment was echoed by all of staff-particularly that they “appreciate being appreciated.”



We are grateful for ALL of our staff. Each and every one impacts our mission.

(left to right) Kong, Anna, Mary, Femi

20 Year Anniversary

For Rainbow Support Group

In 2001, Wingspan started Rainbow Support Group (RSG) to support one of the most marginalized groups in the disability community– LGBTQ adults with developmental disabilities.



“The group’s focus is on providing information and peer support, reducing isolation, and increasing safety,” says Program Director Deb Hofbauer who manages the RSG Program and also supervises four Wingspan group homes.

Dr. John Allen, who pioneered a Rainbow Support Group in Massachusetts in 1998 wrote, “Although the process is complicated, it is doubtful that even those who are most understanding can imagine the obstacles of trying to navigate the intricacies of sexual orientation discovery by a person with a developmental disability.”

Rainbow Support Group meets one evening per month and is open to non-Wingspan members as well. The group averages 4-8 people and welcomes newcomers. Due to COVID, the group had to switch to Zoom meetings over the past year. They are eager for the opportunity to resume in-person sessions. Deb says, “Working with this group for the past year has been a real blessing. The ability to offer a safe place for discussion, information, and resources is so important to their well-being. In Rainbow Support Group they are seen, heard, and valued.”

The group particularly likes going to Mankato Pride each year. When it is safe again to do so, they look forward to going out to dinner, to theater, or to other special outings. The enjoy watching special TV series or movies together as well.

Rainbow Support Group is one of many person-centered programs that reflect Wingspan’s Core Values.

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*A family member is being served or has been served by Wingspan.

Volunteering

A great opportunity for families, individuals, groups, and corporate teams.

Though the pandemic significantly reduced our ability to allow volunteers to serve at our group homes, we were able to eventually open up Summer yard clean up as well as options to volunteer via Zoom. We also worked with more youth than ever before!

New friends from Minnetonka High School assisted us in several ways. Twelve students painted incredibly beautiful designs on gourds for our Power of Love silent auction. For our Friday afternoon "Happiness Hour" Zoom session with clients, students Derek and Gunner played keyboard and electric guitar. Nathan shared a delightful PowerPoint presentation with stories about "Unlikely Animal Friends."



Yale Alumni



Church Group Volunteers for Fairview



Widdifield Family

Youth groups and leaders from New Hope Church and Centennial Evangelical Church volunteered on a very hot summer day at our 48th Circle House and at Fairview House. The weeding, planting and mulching really made a HUGE difference. The Widdifield family also regularly volunteers at Fairview House – deck painting was a huge help this year. Peter really appreciates being able to sit outside in his wheelchair to enjoy the fresh air.

Volunteers from Associated Bank participate through their Roots in Our Community program, helping us every year with painting projects or yard work. Rudy Hokanson and Yale Alumni Association of the Northwest came back again this year in May to help with yard work at Troseth House.

Kyla Sisson has volunteered for Rainbow Support Group for six years, and was able to continue to partner with us via Zoom. She looks forward to being able to gather with members in person again in the future. Lyle Eagle Hawk has also volunteered for Wingspan for decades – helping with landscaping, plowing and other projects – particularly at our Sherburne In-Home office headquarters. Chuck Carver has volunteered as our annual report photographer for eleven years. He is masterful at making clients and staff feel at ease for our photo shoots.

Thank you to all of our volunteers for your generous gifts of time. For more information about volunteer opportunities, contact Sidney Severson at 651.888.3116 or email sseverson@wingspanlife.org



*Church Group
Volunteers*

Did You Know?

40

People Celebrated
10+ Years
of Service

11

People Celebrated
20+ Years
of Service

7

People Celebrated
30+ Years
of Service

2

People Celebrated
40+ Years
of Service



Gifts of Time & Talent

105 Volunteers (including 9 staff):
576 Hours

Our In-Home Programs



**In-Home
Clients Served**

44



**Employment
Assistance Services**

5

Keeping Our Homes and Transportation Safe and Well Maintained



Appliances Purchased

6 Dishwashers
3 Dryers
1 Furnace
6 Ovens/Stoves
3 Refrigerators
1 Washing Machine

Computers & Printers

\$14,000

Plato Campus

\$19,000

3 Rooftop Heat Exchangers
Atrium windows



Used Vehicles Purchased

\$157,301

5 Vans, 1 Maintenance Truck

The List Goes On...

Tree Service \$4,000
Ramp \$5,000
Cement Steps \$2,770
Counters & Cabinets \$7,000

In Loving Memory

Forever in our Hearts

Wingspan remembers these beloved members
of our community who died during the past year.



*Ruth Ann Beckman
Groveland House*



*Pam Oliver
Our House Portland*



*Linda Schnobrich
11th Avenue*



*Jane Thames
Past Board Member*



*Joanne Wiltse
Our House Dayton
& Golden Girls*

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FELLOWSHIP

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We thank our extended family of businesses, corporations, family members, foundations, staff, volunteers and other caring individuals for their gracious support that helps enrich the lives of people served by Wingspan.

The donor list below recognizes donors for their cumulative gifts received between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

If we have misspelled your name or have failed to include your name on the donor list, please accept our apologies and let us know of the error by calling the Development Office at 651.888.3112.

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Financial Summary

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

12 Months Ending June 30, 2021 and 2020

| Revenues | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| (State of Minnesota, Hennepin, Ramsey & Dakota Counties) | | |
| Residential | \$10,316,785 | \$10,019,779 |
| In-Home | \$ 537,129 | \$ 725,710 |
| Crisis Respite | \$ 1,143,100 | \$ 969,161 |
| Fundraising | \$ 227,740 | \$ 183,828 |
| Grants | \$ 68,485 | \$ 145,248 |
| Other | \$ 87,623 | \$ 108,984 |
| TOTAL | \$12,380,862 | \$12,152,710 |

| Expenses | 2021 | 2020 |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Residential | \$10,701,949 | \$ 9,770,141 |
| In-Home | \$ 463,751 | \$ 657,308 |
| Crisis Respite | \$ 850,280 | \$ 864,395 |
| Fundraising Expense | \$ 226,396 | \$ 183,537 |
| TOTAL | \$12,242,376 | \$11,475,381 |

| | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Income from Operations..... | \$ 138,486 | \$ 677,329 |
| Unrealized Gain or (Loss) on Investment | \$ 674,488 | \$ 70,802 |
| Other Interest Income..... | \$ 109,970 | \$ 15,369 |
| Employee Retention Credits | \$ 1,796,326 | \$ - |
| Gain or (Loss) on Disposal of Assets | \$ 8,789 | \$ 4,198 |
| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS | \$ 2,728,059 | \$ 767,698 |
| Program Expenses | \$10,913,008 | \$10,295,350 |
| Management & General Expenses..... | \$ 1,102,972 | \$ 996,494 |
| Fundraising | \$ 226,396 | \$ 183,537 |
| TOTAL | \$12,242,376 | \$11,475,381 |

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

June 30, 2021 and 2020

| Assets | 2021 | 2020 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Current Assets | \$ 4,919,790 | \$ 3,118,964 |
| Investments. | \$ 3,689,932 | \$ 3,015,444 |
| Property & Equipment, Net | \$ 6,194,734 | \$ 5,969,157 |
| Other Assets | \$ 74,095 | \$ 46,883 |
| TOTAL ASSETS..... | \$14,878,551 | \$12,150,448 |

| Liabilities and Net Assets | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Current Liabilities | \$ 1,226,449 | \$ 1,235,037 |
| Long Term Debt | \$ 447,768 | \$ 466,348 |
| Long Term Other | \$ 74,095 | \$ 46,883 |
| Net Assets | \$ 13,130,239 | \$ 10,402,180 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS..... | \$14,878,551 | \$12,150,448 |