

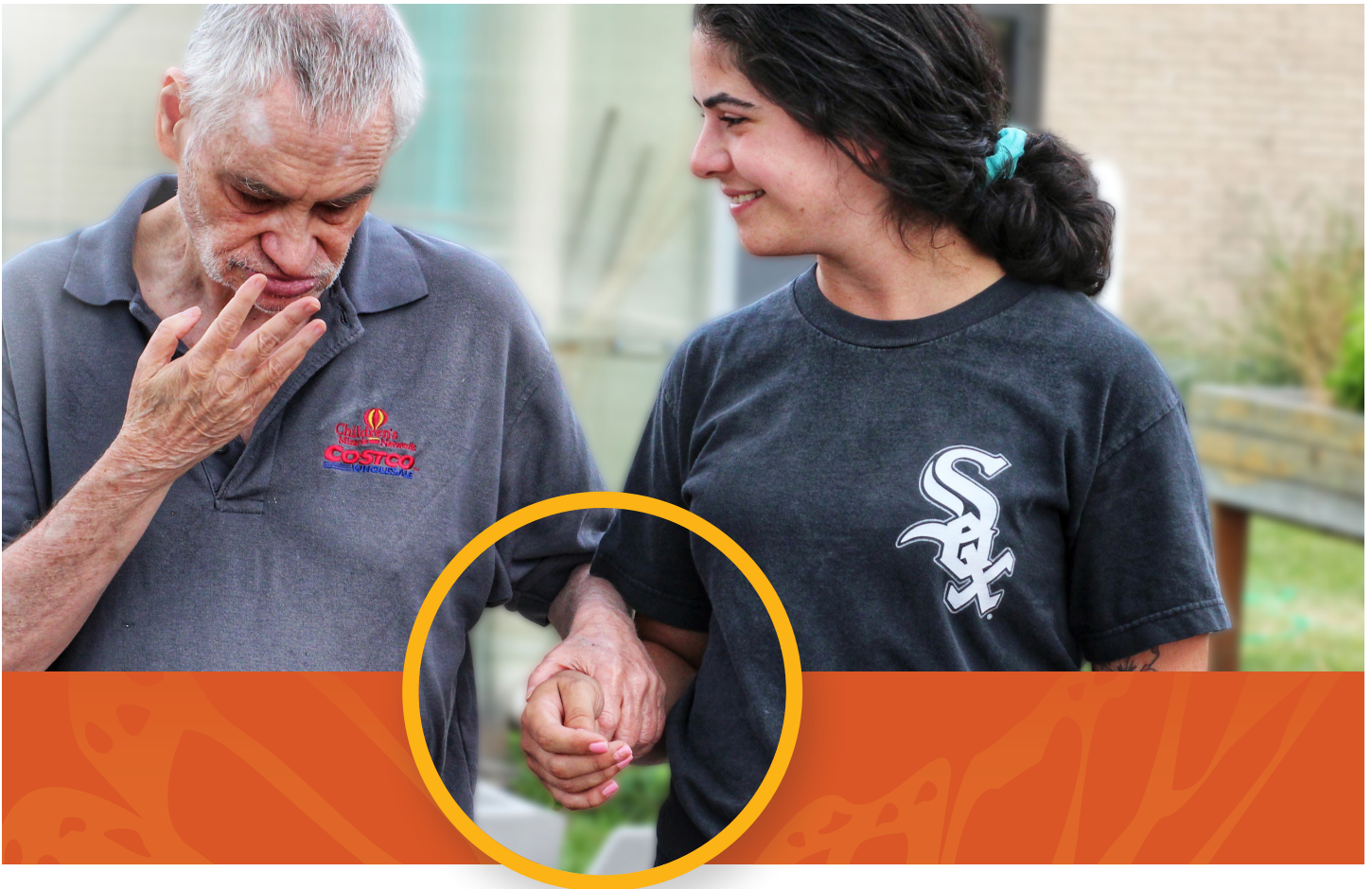


Five Service Areas 2021



Ray Graham
Association®

*Empowering people with disabilities
to reach, grow, and achieve.™*



Our Person-Centered Ethos

Ray Graham Association believes in a person-centered approach to care and community. We provide people with disabilities and their families an array of services that cater to their individual needs, strengths, and dreams. Putting people first leads to a happier and healthier community. Serving nearly 2,000 people with disabilities and employing nearly 350 people, RGA enriches lives by empowering those we support and those who care for them to reach, grow, and achieve. Thank you for being a part of this life-saving and live-giving mission.

Our Award-Winning Leadership

For over 20 years, the **Council of Quality and Leadership (CQL)** has accredited Ray Graham Association for our leadership's vision of dignity, opportunity, and community for all people. As good stewards of our finances, 87% of every dollar donated to Ray Graham Association goes directly to people with disabilities. For more information, you can peruse the 2019 Annual Report. Ray Graham Association is a registered 501(c)3 charitable non-profit organization, and your gifts are tax-deductible.



*Serving **nearly 2,000** people with disabilities and employing 350 people.*



***Over 30 locations** in DuPage County and the surrounding area.*



***Over 20 years** of accreditation by the Council of Quality and Leadership.*



***87% of every dollar** you donate goes directly to people with disabilities.*

Recreational

Simply being outdoors or socializing makes people happier and healthier. Ray Graham Association offers an array of ways to socialize and engage with the community. The Hansen Center features our Premier PATH Accredited therapeutic horsemanship program, an animal farm, and an accessible playground for all abilities. Through the Gateway Special Recreation Association, more people can do what they love in a supportive and customized setting. Wellness classes, summer camps, social clubs, and team sports like basketball, bowling, and softball lay the foundations for skill building, interpersonal relationships, and happier lives.

Residential

People supported at Ray Graham Association have much more than a place to live—they have a home. Over 100 people with disabilities flourish in our 25+ community-based homes that promote independence and foster friendship. Accessible houses are available for people with mobility needs. We provide each person with the chance to be a part of their community and to make every day enjoyable and meaningful. Whether working at their job, volunteering in their community, or learning new life skills at our Community Learning Centers, those we support have greater control of their lives.

Family Support

Family life can be a challenge regardless of who you are or your background. Questions and self-doubt can compound stress if you're caring for a child or adult with special needs. Ray Graham Association offers families strategies to support their loved ones and integrate them into the community. Personal consultations help families to navigate service options, explore unique social and health care opportunities, and find sources of funding for people with disabilities.

Employment

Employment provides people with disabilities a sense of dignity and purpose. Ray Graham Association partners with hundreds of businesses and institutions throughout DuPage and the surrounding counties to help people with disabilities find a job and find the right fit. People find the financial independence a new job offers through interview training, resume writing, and learning to dress for success. Skills like navigating public transportation and connecting to natural supports contribute to the 90% retention rate for employment seekers.

Life Skills

Cooking, shopping, and exercise are routine for many people. For people with disabilities, accomplishing these everyday moments can be a source of independence, comfort, and pride. Ray Graham Association provides daytime activities for people with disabilities, classes for folks with similar interests, as well as life coaching. Through partnerships with Meals on Wheels, Operation Support Our Troops, and similar organizations, the people we serve are civic leaders themselves. They volunteer over 3,000 hours a year, delivering meals to their homebound neighbors, offering encouragement to the women and men in the armed forces, among many other activities.



Hanson Center

The Therapeutic Horsemanship program uses 20 therapy horses to provide opportunities for children and adults with disabilities to experience the enjoyment and therapeutic benefits of riding horses. Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) certified instructors lead individual and small group lessons with the assistance of trained volunteers. Students can begin riding as early as four years of age and participate in events such as Special Olympics, horse shows, and summer camps.

Monarch Academy

Monarch Academy is a post-transition, community-based program for young adults with disabilities. Using the community as a classroom, Monarch Academy fosters the development of a wide range of meaningful skills that facilitate social relationships, self-esteem, employment, and recreation. RGA leadership and community members designed Monarch Academy for young adults who are eager to learn, enjoy an active schedule with a wide variety of experiences, and social interaction with peers.

Gateway Special Recreation Association

Gateway Special Recreation Association promotes the full participation of people with disabilities in meaningful activities that maximize their health, well-being, and quality of life. Formed through an intergovernmental agreement, it is an extension of park districts throughout DuPage County and contract with Ray Graham Association to provide recreation for people with disabilities and their families.

Services Include



RESIDENTIAL

Providing more than a place to live—providing a home.



LIFE SKILLS

Providing skills for independence, comfort, and pride.



RECREATION

Providing chances to be happier and healthier.



EMPLOYMENT

Providing jobs that offer a sense of dignity and purpose.



FAMILY SUPPORT

Providing strategies for families to help their loved ones.



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