

AID Developments SUMMER 2022

AID Elgin Community Day Services Reveals New Kitchen at O'Shea Center

Thanks in part to an Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grant sponsored by Illinois State Representative Keith Wheeler, AID recently completely renovated the O'Shea Center training kitchen.

This newly remodeled, commercial-grade kitchen helps AID advance a new initiative focused on nutrition and wellness. Clients have the opportunity to cook, learn about food safety/handling, menu plan and meal prep.

Anna Barnes, AID Lead Food Skills Trainer, hopes to help clients increase self-sufficiency in their home kitchens and help AID residential staff, who cook with and for clients, enhance their meal preparation skills. This program also provides hands on experience, training and job skills for clients interested in a career in the restaurant, cooking or food industry.



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 Association for
Individual Development

"EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS FOR A BETTER TOMORROW SINCE 1961"

WWW.AIDCARES.ORG   

LETTER FROM AID PRESIDENT



OUR MISSION:

To empower people with physical, developmental, intellectual and mental health challenges to enjoy lives of dignity and purpose.

ABOUT AID:

AID is a nonprofit, community-based organization that serves 6,400 individuals throughout DeKalb, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, McHenry, suburban Cook and Will counties. Programs are available for individuals with developmental, behavioral and crisis needs. AID is a United Way partner agency and accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please visit our website:

AIDcares.org

or call:

AID Services: 877-AID-0001
(877-243-0001)

Crisis Line: 630-966-9393



Dear Friends,

It's been a long, difficult road for us all during the past couple of years. Traversing the pandemic, social injustices, civic discord, political upheavals, tragic violence and war is hard. As we move forward, we remind everyone to give grace, to yourselves and others, as we all try to cope with visceral and vicarious trauma! I'm so proud of the AID team, staff and clients, for doing their best, all day, every day, to make our communities better places! Even in the midst of struggles, it has been an exciting time here at AID:

- We received an award of Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) to build a 50-unit affordable housing building in Elgin (that makes two buildings totaling 74 units of permanent and supportive housing to be built on State Street in Elgin)
- We purchased the Aurora Administration, Thompson and Keeler Center buildings from INC using funds awarded from local legislators (thanks Representative Hernandez!)
- We are developing a Capital Plan for the next 3-10 years in order to better serve our clients (thanks Cordogan Clark!) and finally
- The Illinois State Budget included rate increases for I/DD and Mental Health Services which has allowed us to
 - » Add an eighth paid holiday for staff (the Friday after Thanksgiving)
 - » Increase the AID Safe Harbor portion of retirement we fund to 3.5% of staff members' salaries **AND**
 - » **Increase every AID staff member's salary by 10%**

We are so grateful to our dedicated state legislators for recognizing that social service employees do important work and deserve a living wage!

Have a safe and enjoyable summer and please plan to join us for our Fall Auction on September 29th!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lore Baker'.

Lore Baker
AID President & CEO

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP



LORE BAKER
PRESIDENT & CEO



DR. RAJNISH J. MANDRELLE
COO



BOB GORSKI
CFO



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VICE PRESIDENT
OF EQUITY & INCLUSION



STEPHANIE NORWOOD
VICE PRESIDENT
OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



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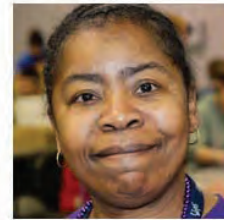
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\$1,000 SIGN-ON BONUS!



JOIN THE AID TEAM!

APPLY ONLINE: [AIDCARES.ORG/CAREERS](https://aidcares.org/careers)

AID Receives Three-Year CARF Accreditation

Association for Individual Development (AID) has received a three-year accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), an independent nonprofit organization focused on advancing the quality of services needed for the best possible results.



CARF surveyors were very impressed with the caring and knowledgeable AID staff. They also pointed out many areas of strength within AID, including: data management and use including Cx360; equity and inclusion work; leadership including our engaged board; beautiful homes, in great neighborhoods, both CILA and apartments; person-centered outlook/services; creativity during a pandemic; technology; community partnerships; STARS and CDS volunteers; very strong employment program; crisis intervention continuum; quality service from a diverse staff; and overall a very impressive organization.

CARF assists service providers in improving the quality of their services, demonstrating value, and meeting internationally recognized organizational and program standards. The accreditation process applies sets of standards to service areas and business practices during an on-site survey.

Accreditation, however, is an ongoing process, signaling to the public that a service provider is committed to continuously improving services, encouraging feedback, and serving the community. Accreditation also demonstrates a provider's commitment to enhance performance, risk management, and distinguish service delivery.

AID Street Outreach Program Provides Necessary Service for Community

The AID Street Outreach (SO) Program supports individuals experiencing homelessness by encouraging engagement with appropriate mental health services. The goal of this program is to reduce inappropriate use of emergency services and support individuals with mental health needs who are also experiencing homelessness or housing instability.



Since its launch in late 2020, SO has seen an increased need for community services. This critical assistance has helped many individuals obtain a State I.D., receive a L.I.N.K. card, sign up for Medicaid, navigate housing and connect to treatment for substance use and mental health needs. "I love Street Outreach because we get to see and get to know and walk with the folks most others ignore. This opens up opportunities for growth with both the client and myself, and some really incredible moments," explained Lyndsay Hartman, SO Case Manager Lead. "When people feel compassion and support, when they are so used to feeling judgement, they are able to value themselves more, set goals that they want and move towards small change. It's beautiful." For more information about the SO program visit www.aidcares.org/crisis-community-outreach.

AID Hosts Inaugural Summer Stroll & Roll

On Sunday, June 12, 2022, AID hosted the first-ever "Summer Stroll & Roll" to raise funds and awareness for programs and services benefiting 6,400 children and adults with developmental, behavioral and crisis needs.

130 participants enjoyed a relaxing stroll or roll around the bucolic Peck Farm (Geneva), indulged in breakfast refreshments, learned about AID programs and services at various booths and heard from individuals and families with lived experience.

This event was made possible by our generous sponsors, event volunteers, informational booth volunteers and incredible speakers. Thank you to everyone who attended or supported the AID Summer Stroll & Roll financially and with their time and talent.



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O'SHEA**

**JOHN AND SUZANNE
POTTER**

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**OWEN AND SUSAN
LOWREY**

**BOB AND TERRY
GORSKI**

**PAT AND JUDITH
FLAHERTY**

**KINNALLY FLAHERTY
LORAN HODGE &
MASUR P.C.**

Bat Mitzvah Project Results in Generous AID Donation

The AID family is overjoyed to be the recipient of dozens of wonderful gifts as a result of Sara Fine's Bat Mitzvah project - an illustration of her commitment to her community. Sara envisioned enriching the lives of individuals with diverse abilities as her community project.

She researched the AID Amazon Wishlist and from it created her own list of items for clients that included entertainment and recreation, kitchen, bed and bath, and self-care. Sara reached out to family, friends and neighbors to help her by purchasing items from the AID Amazon Wishlist (aidcares.org/client-wishlist).

The response was overwhelming and Sara and her family delivered more than \$3,000 worth of items! These gifts will bring joy and comfort to so many. We are beyond grateful to Sara, her family, and all donors for such incredible generosity.



Get Connected!

Sign up to receive exciting AID news and updates directly to your inbox!

Enter your e-mail in the pop-up window at AIDcares.org or scan this QR code:



Receive the following directly to your inbox!

- **FRIDAY FOCUS:** Each Friday, a specific AID program or service is highlighted with a client success story and detailed program information.
- **ADVOCACY ALERTS:** Receive important legislative alerts that affect AID and our community. Includes direct calls to action.

...and more!

AID Dream Team Featured in Friday Focus

Did you know that more than 550 people work at AID across all our programs and service areas? In an effort to get to know each other better and to feel more connected, once per month we will highlight different members of the AID Dream Team in our Friday Focus!

These employees are chosen by a computer-generated randomizer, answer four simple questions and provide a photo so we can all learn a little bit more about each other. Use the QR code above or visit AIDcares.org/get-connected to sign-up for our weekly Friday Focus e-mails.

Snapshots: PHOTOS AROUND THE AGENCY



Bad News Bears! Despite getting rained out, the AID Kiwanis Club of Elgin Aktion Club still enjoyed classic ballpark food and camaraderie. Thank you to Kiwanis Club of Elgin, Rick Poulton, Jeff Weaver and the entire Kane County Cougars staff for making this outing possible!



Our DeKalb office walls received a much needed pop of color thanks to our talented and artistic clients! AID DeKalb provides Behavioral Health Outpatient and Supported Living Services to the community.



Thank you for 35 years of dedication to AID and the clients we serve... Happy retirement Vicki Goodrich!



Thank you to everyone who attended the Aurora Listening Tour. It's important to provide opportunities for people living with disabilities, and those who support them, an avenue to express their thoughts and needs regarding resources, services and support.



Thanks to generous funds provided by Kiwanis Club of Elgin, the AID Elgin Aktion Club was able to kickstart the O'Shea Center backyard garden. We can't wait to harvest the fresh produce!



Students from the Aurora University Therapeutic Recreation program coordinated an unforgettable day at Reins of Change Equestrian Center for our clients. Thank you AU students and Reins of Change for this unique opportunity.



Thank you to the Elgin Police Department and The Autism Hero Project for inviting AID to participate in the Elgin Community Autism Awareness event in April! It was a great opportunity to inform the community about AID programs.



AID appreciates the very generous donations from the Elgin Knights of Columbus Council #654 (left) and Batavia/Geneva Knights of Columbus Council #2191 (right). These organizations work tirelessly to raise funds during their Tootsie Roll drives; so if you ever see them outside raising funds, give them a big thank you for supporting impactful community organizations like AID. Thank you to all of the Knights' members for your dedication and support over the years!



MEMORIALS 7/1/21 - 12/31/21

Ben Alexander

Greg and Patrice
Alexander

Matthew Branstad

John and Kimberly
Branstad

Joseph Broski

Florence Fullwood

Mary Broski

Florence Fullwood

James Broski

Florence Fullwood

Mendel Jones

Florence Fullwood

Doris Kroll

Sheldon and Marjorie
Nicol

Jim Miller

North Aurora
Lions Club

Sylvia Quintanilla

Sandy Quintanilla

Helen Sprague

Ronald and Jane
Graeff

Charles and Toni
Miller

Joseph Rubo
Joan Scheets-Britton

Lori Voga

Mildred Burkhart

HONORARIUMS 7/1/21 - 12/31/21

Lore Baker

Lora Thomas

Kelsey and Conner Lloyd

David Bixby

Stephanie Norwood

Kathryn Norwood

Ben Steinberg

Abraham Steinberg
and Candice
Goldstein

The Steinberg Family

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Tom and Lynn

O'Shea
Diane Pillar

George and Linda
Plotzke

Connie Scott
Dennis and Susan

Siy
Abraham Steinberg

and Candice
Goldstein

Wanda Thomas (cont.)

Melinda and Marcos
Tejada

Mary Trippon

Danny Trippon

Norman and Betty
Berthusen

Mary Trippon

Joy Springer



Association for
Individual Development

Honor that special
someone today!

1. Visit AIDcares.org
2. Select **"Donate"** from the Support Tab
3. Fill in Required Information
4. Select **"Yes"** in the **"Dedicate this Donation"** section.

GRANTS & DONATIONS

7/1/21 - 12/31/21

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(Geneva)

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Auxiliary

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GRANTS & DONATIONS

7/1/21 - 12/31/21

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Ronald and Donna Bosh	Randy and Debby Dalton	Epic Air Trampoline Park (South Elgin)	James B. Gould* and Jenna Korenstra
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7/1/21 - 12/31/21

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			Laura Poss

GRANTS & DONATIONS

7/1/21 - 12/31/21

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	Tiffany Swain		Art and Barbara Zillgitt
			John Zweibohmer

*Indicates Board Member

UPCOMING EVENTS



AID BENEFIT AUCTION - SEPTEMBER 29 - FISHERMEN'S INN (ELBURN)

AID will host the annual Benefit Auction on Thursday, September 29 at the scenic Fishermen's Inn in Elburn, IL. Support the auction by donating new items such as gift cards, wine/liquors, sports/concert tickets or consider sharing your timeshare or get a group together and create a raffle basket!

Make your donation today by contacting Angela Cudmore, Events Coordinator at (847) 931-2294 or ACudmore@AIDcares.org.



AID HOLIDAY HOPES PROGRAM - BEGINS MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

The holidays can be a challenging time for clients who no longer have families. With the help of our exemplary donors, AID brings a little holiday cheer to clients in need by providing small gifts at Christmas. Individuals, groups or businesses interested in helping to purchase gifts for clients for the holidays can display itemized "gift tags" with gift ideas for clients at their place of business, worship or other social settings. Help provide some holiday joy for our clients by calling (847) 931-2294 or e-mail info@aidcares.org.



#ILGIVE GIVING TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 29 - ONLINE EVENT

#ILGIVE is a statewide, non-partisan movement to support non-profit communities in Illinois by increasing individual giving. #ILGIVE is a compliment to the nationwide #GivingTuesday campaign. Mark your calendar for this year's event: Tuesday, November 29, 2022. Help us reach our fundraising goal and make a larger impact with your online donation on this special day!

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twitter.com/AIDtweets



<https://bit.ly/3dsCGom>



ACCESS AID SERVICES OR MAKE A REFERRAL:
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