

## CARE LETTER

A newsletter for those who care about Marklund

www.marklund.org

SUMMER 2022

# Celebrating 20 Dears in Geneva



NSID

An in-person record at our Run, Walk & Roll-Bloomingdale

Diggin' our newest site: the Nathan Education Center

An M2030 plan update

20 Years in Geneva – Looking back with staff

Volunteering during a pandemic

A fun new venture for Wasmond Center—Project Playground

Focusing on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

• Where to find us

Upcoming Events;

We are hiring!

#### We Are Marklund

Making everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities



Philip Center in their wheelchairs being able to "Roll" in the 1-mile event assisted by staff and volunteers.

Notable finishes for the 5K included winner Patrick Devitt who crossed the finish line at 18:28, and 9-year-old Jake Breen who finished 4th overall with a time of 21:42. As a special note, a 71-year-old woman who won in her age bracket said this was the first race she had ever won!

A big thank you goes out to the **Fitch Foundation**, this year's Presenting Sponsor, as well as the many other event sponsors.

Find details on race results, sponsors and event photos at www.marklund.org/5Kbloomingdale.

Nearly 500 people ranging in age from 7 months to 77 years helped Marklund celebrate the 5th Annual Run, Walk & Roll-Bloomingdale 5K/1 Mile event and take it to a new **on-site fundraising record of \$64,700 in net proceeds!** 

"This year's event was so special," noted Heather Graves, Chief Development Officer. "Despite a little rain, it was so wonderful to be back in person after two years of virtual events. Our runners, walkers, staff and residents took to the streets enjoying the fresh air, grateful to be back with friends, donors, neighbors and volunteers once again!"

Many people echoed that sentiment, saying it felt "so normal" to be back in person for this event, and were especially happy to see the residents of the Marklund

RUN WALK &R@LL 5K/1MILE GENEVA

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, October 16, 2022

10th Annual Run, Walk & Roll!





# Breaking Ground for future developments

With gold shovels, hard hats, backhoes and bulldozers, Marklund officially commenced construction on its first three M2030 strategic plan projects this spring.

In Elgin, staff, donors, board members and dignitaries gathered for a ceremonial groundbreaking event at the project site for the **Nathan Education Center**. Located at 1210 Hunter Drive, the center is being named for a young man who was served by Marklund for many years, and whose family wishes to use his legacy to help others.

State Sen. Cristina Castro and state Rep. Anna Moeller also attended the event, with Rep. Moeller thanking Marklund for building this new center in Elgin. The new Education Center will allow Marklund to expand its Day School's program for students on the autism spectrum, as well as its Bridge Builder program for adults living at home needing support.

"This facility will be the answer to the prayers of many."

—GII Fonger,

Marklund President & CEO

In Geneva, FCL Builders construction crews got the ball rolling without fanfare but with a great deal of digging and demolition as they began excavation and underground utility work for the expansion of the Hyde Center's Aquatic Center **locker room and new** 

maintenance garage. Residents of the Community Day Services program housed in the Hyde Center have enjoyed an up-close view of the action happening right outside of windows.

The new locker room will provide a much improved and expanded facility, basically doubling the number of Marklund residents and students who will be able to benefit from Marklund's specialized aquatic therapy program. The new maintenance building will feature offices, storage and large garage areas.

The maintenance garage and locker room area are expected to be completed in December, while the finish date for the Nathan Education Center is slated for February, 2023.





Excavation is well underway for the construction of the new maintenance garage and locker room expansion in Geneva.



Give a gift of \$5,000+ between July 1-31, and your name will be included on a beautiful donor wall in the expanded Aquatic Center! (\*The gift may be a \$1,000 donation per year for 5 years, or a single gift of \$5,000 or more.) With a generous contribution to the Aquatic Center expansion plan, donors will

also be recognized as a part of Marklund's Leadership Giving Circle and invited to the Annual Donor Appreciation Event on September 15th.



For information, contact Natalie Sarby Individual Giving Manager, nsarby@marklund.org or (630)593-5461.

# Celebrating Dears in Geneva

Late in 2002, the Marklund organization opened the doors to its newest location—a 25-acre campus featuring a 45,000-square-foot Administration & Developmental Training center with aquatic therapy pool, dental office, hair salon, as well as four 16-bed residential buildings, and room to expand. Then called Marklund at Mill Creek for being situated within the Mill Creek subdivision in unincorporated Geneva, this new development was Marklund's largest fundraising undertaking up to then—a \$17 million campaign with the majority funded through the Federal government, thanks to support from Congressman Henry Hyde. Once the new Hyde Center building opened, Marklund residents were transported daily from their group homes in DuPage County to begin utilizing the new Developmental Training classrooms. The first four residential buildings constructed on the campus were not completed until early 2003, with two more added in 2006.

Many of our employees who took part in this milestone move are still on staff today, happy to share their memories in our CareLetter as well as our website at www.marklund.org/20years.





### Marklund employees still caring after all these years



Vicki Reyes, Therapist-COTA/L: I have learned that possibilities are limitless. My heart is here and I do not take anything for granted.



**HIPAA/Compliance** When we first opened, we could see how happy the residents were. Having an amazing new home that belonged to them made us all so happy.



Peggy Szarynski, **Medical Records:** I just had a feeling this is where I need to be.

FIND US, FOLLOW US: **f D f** in **O** 











The Marklund Volunteer Department Vision Statem

Appreciating our Security Secu

Volunteers have always been an important part of the Marklund organization. Whether providing support to residents onsite at our Geneva, Elgin and Bloomingdale campuses or on outings in the community, helping with office duties or working at a fundraising event, they are an integral part of the Marklund team. Our thousands of volunteers help Marklund make everyday life possible for those adults and children we serve by helping them take part in therapeutic, recreational and educational activities, and by being a new face to see, a new person to interact with—all while supporting our staff.

Marklund began with many dedicated and compassionate volunteers helping to care for Mark William Lund, our first resident, back in the 1950s, and the many residents and community clients since then.

Each year in April—National Volunteer Month—we recognize the important effort provided by those who choose to volunteer at Marklund. While over the past two years we have had to limit onsite

volunteer opportunities due to the pandemic, many of our friends refused to stay away from the relationships they forged with residents and staff, and stepped up by volunteering in a variety of creative ways. Thanks to video conferencing apps like Zoom, we've welcomed virtual book clubs, spiritual meetings, music sessions, and even online visits from equine therapy friends. Others took to creating and sending cards and letters, shopping for residents, and providing meals for staff. As we were allowed to loosen restrictions, vaccinated volunteers wearing masks and eye protection, happily returned on-site, assisting with taking residents on outings into the community, bringing therapy pets in to make personal visits, decorating for the holidays, reading favorite books in-person, and making connections.

To learn more about volunteering at Marklund, contact the Volunteer Department staff through www.marklund.org/volunteer. No matter what your gift, talents, skills or age, you can become a part of Marklund.

#### WHO CAN VOLUNTEER?

- · High-school students ages 14 and up (without an adult) · College students · Stay-at-home parents · Retired adults · Working adults · Corporate professionals · Faith-based groups
- · School groups · Athletic teams · Scout troops · Court-appointed individuals · Service professionals · Musicians · Artists · Pet therapists · Children (with parents)



Help build a brand new, accessible playground at the Wasmond Center in Elgin!



SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE AND DONATE!

Make a donation or start a fundraising page to support the development of a new accessible playground at the Marklund Wasmond Center (MWC) in Elgin. This new, fun, special place will provide a multitude of recreational, social and therapeutic opportunities to MWC's 61 children and adult residents.

From a wheelchair accessible merry-go-round, to a percussion sensory garden – this custom playground is designed with a rubberized surface that is perfect for wheelchairs, and is guaranteed to bring more activity, smiles, and sunshine into the lives of Marklund residents.

Any funds raised above the budget will be used for additional supplies for the play area. Make sure to stay tuned while we reveal new details as Marklund continues the planning process!



Contact Natalie Sarby, Individual Giving Manager, at nsarby@marklund.org or 630-593-5461

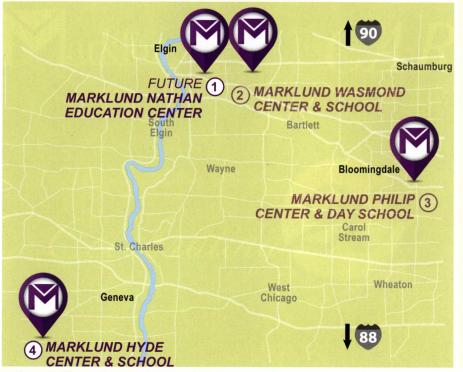
## Your gift makes FRIENDSHIP possible!



There's still time to support our Fiscal Year-End Appeal. Learn about TC's story and how to donate at www.marklund.org/give.

www.marklund.org/give





#### **Marklund Locations**

- 1 FUTURE SITE MARKLUND NATHAN EDUCATION CENTER
  1210 Hunter Dr., Elgin, Illinois 60120
- 2 MARKLUND WASMOND CENTER & SCHOOL
  1435 Summit Street, Elgin, Illinois 60120
  224.523.7530
  Medically Complex/DD Facility for 61 children and adults. Skilled nursing,
  Community Day Services program, therapy services, recreational and
  community activities. Five-acre campus includes the residential facility
  and Community Day Services center. Site also features two Marklund
  Day School classrooms for students in the Multi-Needs Program.
- MARKLUND PHILIP CENTER
  164 S. Prairie Ave., Bloomingdale, Illinois 60108 630.529.2871
  Medically Complex/DD Facility for 21 children and adults. Skilled nursing,
  Community Day Services program, therapy services, recreational and
  community activities.
- MARKLUND DAY SCHOOL 164 S. Prairie Ave., Bloomingdale, Illinois 60108 630.307.1882 A non-public state-certified school that partners with area school districts to provide a highly specialized education experience. This therapeutic, sensory-driven Multi-Needs Program serves individuals ages 3 through 21 with medical, developmental, and physical disabilities.
- (3) MARKLUND DAY SCHOOL-BLOOMINGALE, Ann Haskins Center (same address as above) Through the Life Skills Program, teachers and paraprofessionals provide individualized functional curriculum and supports for students who are diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum, those with emotional/behavioral disorders, specific learning disabilities, and intellectual/developmental disabilities.
- MARKLUND HYDE CENTER

  1S450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, Illinois 60134
  Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) for adults. 25-acre campus includes six 16-bed residential homes for 96 adults, Community Day Services program for residents and day clients, on-site heated aquatic therapy pool, main administrative offices, therapy services, and Miracle League baseball field.
- 4 MARKLUND DAY SCHOOL-GENEVA, Foglia Education Center
  1S450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, Illinois 60134 630.307.1882
  A non-public state-certified school for students ages 3 through 21
  with multiple complex medical conditions, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and those on the autism spectrum. Offering special education within Multi-Needs and Life Skills programs.





2 MARKLUND WASMOND CENTER & SCHOOL



MARKLUND PHILIP
CENTER & DAY SCHOOL





MARKLUND HYDE CENTER & SCHOOL











CARELETTER A newsletter for those who care about Marklund



Marklund is seeking compassionate Caregivers, CNAs, and Nurses to join our growing team! If you are looking for a career with great benefits, paid trainings, a positive work environment, and the chance to make a difference -

You Belong at Marklund!