

PROVIDING CIRCLES OF SUPPORT

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



CELEBRATING
40 YEARS



OUR MISSION

Community Support Services is a private, nonprofit agency that initiates, provides and promotes services for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families, within their communities, in order to strengthen their independence, self-esteem, and ability to participate in and contribute to community life.

Dear Friends,

As we safely resume services in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, we continue to be grateful for you.

With every donation, no matter the size, as community partners, friends, and CSS families, you put the needs of individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities first.

We remain proud of our staff and their genuine concern and commitment to the participants we serve. Together, we have built an organization that is a trusted and caring service provider.

As we have continued to advocate for our participants, it shows in the opinions of those we value most. CSS again averaged 95% positive

feedback from families and individuals that use our services.

We have also embarked on an important accreditation process through CQL, the Council on Quality and Leadership. This process aligns closely with tenants CSS holds dearly which include strengthening the independence, self-esteem, and community involvement of our participants. We are proud to have earned accreditation through 2023.

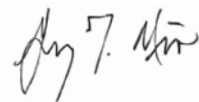
The costs to provide our services continue to outpace the modest reimbursement rates provided by the state of Illinois. This creates a growing divide between our actual costs and state reimbursements. However, with your generosity we can provide the high-quality services that our community relies upon every day.

On behalf of the hundreds of individuals and their families who receive our services, thank you for your continued interest and support of CSS.

Sincerely,



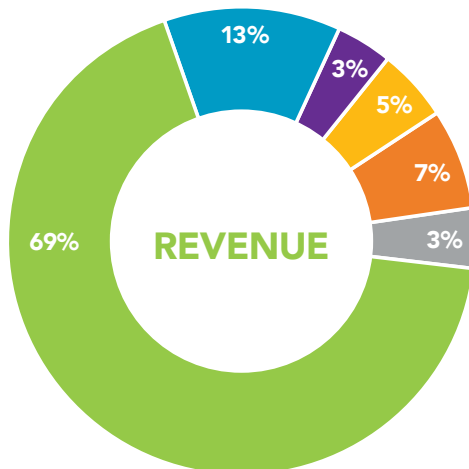
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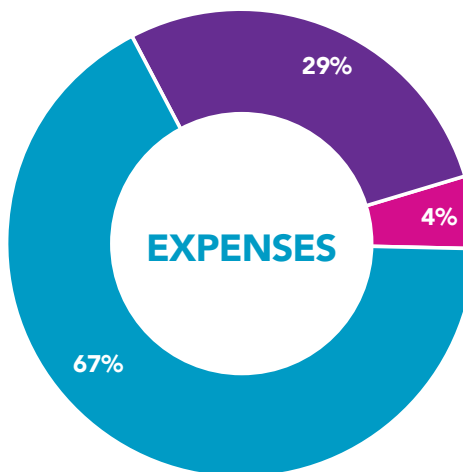


2020-2021 Financial Statement



- **Illinois Department of Human Services**
\$4,882,974
- **Community Mental Health Boards**
\$888,380
- **Other Government Grants**
\$228,106
- **Fundraising & Other Public Support**
\$382,151
- **Client Fees**
\$484,861
- **Other Revenue**
\$238,875

TOTAL REVENUE: \$7,105,347



- **Program Services**
\$4,323,802
- **Management & General**
\$1,881,725
- **Fundraising**
\$254,561

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$6,460,088

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS:
\$645,259**

**The Organization believes that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on its operating results remains fluid, and if disruptions do arise, they could adversely impact the Organization.*

Our Impact

PROGRAMS

Case Management
Respite
Independent Living
Supported Employment
24-Hour Residential Care
Community360 Day Program
Senior Services
Counseling & Behavior Support

PEOPLE SERVED

351
107
40
57
38
44
2
62

SERVICE HOURS

5,436
28,963
10,528
1,912
319,826
31,234
476
2,520

TOTAL

479*

400,895

**479 is an unduplicated number. (CSS provides a variety of services to individuals with intellectual/development disabilities in western Cook and eastern DuPage counties. Many participants are enrolled in multiple programs which provide a full continuum of care for the individual and their family. The numbers to the left are duplicated in instances where individuals receive multiple services.)*

Our Annual Event Was Hosted Virtually for a Second Year

CIRCLES OF SUPPORT 40TH ANNIVERSARY *Celebration*

In 2021, CSS' signature fundraiser was held in a virtual format for the second year in a row. Although it was disappointing to not gather in person, our Resource Development Committee (RDC) members believe that when life gives you lemons, you make lemonade. This group secured 72 silent auction packages and financial commitments from 34 sponsors.

CSS would like to extend our appreciation to the RDC and all the community supporters who donated, sponsored, tuned in, and made this virtual celebration successful. More than \$85,000 in net revenue was raised for services that are



underfunded or receive no funding at all. These include crucial services like Nursing Services, Residential and Independent Living Services, CSS Academy Programs, Supported Employment, and Transportation.

The participants also got involved in the program by showing off their dance moves to the Justin Timberlake song, "Can't Stop the Feeling."



Community Support Made the Holidays Easier for CSS Families

CSS participants look forward to the holidays, and each year our community comes together to help them celebrate. Students and families from Riverside Brookfield High School (Brookfield) and Park Junior High School (LaGrange) donate gift cards for Thanksgiving meals each year. Families of CSS participants can buy a turkey and sides to enjoy Thanksgiving together without financial worries.



Employees from nearby UOP in McCook, a Honeywell company, also make sure that all participants receive a holiday gift of their choosing through the Santa Anonymous program. Last year their staff collected 76 gifts. Meanwhile, the employees at Charter Steel, on the west side of Chicago, choose to support the CSS Emergency Fund. This provides specific, short term financial relief to families who face difficult circumstances during the holidays.



Participants Enjoy the Community, Despite Restrictions

As the community opened again and sites allowed visitors, our participants were excited to enjoy special field trips and excursions. There was something for everyone. Sports enthusiasts saw the Chicago Wolves play an exciting game of hockey. Friends came together to enjoy cooking classes and learn new recipes. Our Residential and Independent Living participants gathered at nearby parks for picnics and fun. Some special field trips took participants to downtown Chicago to see some favorite sights including the Art Institute and The Bean, a work of public art in the heart of Chicago.

Once individuals with I/DD reach the age of 22, high school officially ends for them. This can be a lonely time without the structure they have enjoyed in school. Activities like these are very important for our participants to stay connected to their community, learn new things, and meet new people. Every participant is offered case management services including an annual service plan to support them in identifying and seeking out new life experiences and daily living skills.

Improvements to Group Homes Make Life Safer and More Dignified

Like many Americans, our residents spent a lot of time in their homes during the Covid-19 pandemic. So, they were excited to see capital improvements that created more attractive, safe, and dignified living environments.

CSS owns and operates eight residential homes called CILAs. Just like our own homes, continual maintenance and upkeep is important so they do not fall into disrepair. However, with the modest funding provided by the state of Illinois, our Residential & Independent Living program is significantly

underfunded, leaving a financial short fall of about \$450,000 annually. Grants and investments by private funders and friends of CSS help to close this funding gap.

The kitchen is the heart of any home, so a new kitchen was at the top of the wish list from the Lyons Place residents. CSS received a gift from a private funder to update the kitchen of this 30+ year old home. Another private funder made it possible to rebuild the privacy fence at the Lyons Place home for residents to enjoy together during warm months.



With Gratitude

We are deeply grateful for the following contributors whose gifts were received in Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021.)

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