

AID Developments WINTER 2024

AID and North Arrow Partners Break Ground on First Phase of “The Wildwoods”

On Thursday, October 26, 2023, AID, North Arrow Partners and PNC Real Estate broke ground at 695 S. State Street in Elgin to mark the commencement of The Wildwoods development project. Elgin Mayor Dave Kaptain and representatives from AID and North Arrow Partners delivered remarks highlighting the project’s significance and the positive impact it will have on the community.

The Wildwoods will consist of Wildwood Commons, a 24-unit permanent supportive housing property; Wildwood Trace, a 50-unit affordable housing property; and the Community Center will house a Community Mental Health Center, a closed-door pharmacy, employment services, AID finance and resource development departments and space available for community use and for social service providers.

This development project is made possible with funding from PNC Real Estate, ComEd, Illinois Housing Development Authority, Seigle Foundation, Kane County HOME funds (Kane County and the Kane County-City of Elgin Home Consortium) and Congressman Krishnamoorthi Community Support Funds.



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Association for
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COMMUNITY * ADVOCACY * RESOURCES * ENGAGEMENT * SUPPORT

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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 5,200 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,

We have exciting Capital Projects in the works at AID:

- Wildwood Commons, a 24 unit Permanent Supportive Housing project and Wildwood Trace, a 50 unit Low Income Housing Tax Credit Property are under construction in Elgin. Drive by and see the progress!
- The Wildwoods will also include a third building, a Community Mental Health Center. We received funding for this building from Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi and are working on raising the rest of the cost of the building so we can break ground late Spring/early Summer.
- We have plans to renovate the Thompson Center at our 309 New Indian Trail location in Aurora. We will more efficiently and effectively utilize the space in this building. We are in the permitting process with the City of Aurora and will soon be releasing an RFP for General Contracting of the project.
- We recently purchased a building on Saravanos Drive in Yorkville. We will be expanding mental health services there for adults, children and families. We will also lightly rehabilitate a portion of the building and move Community Day Services (CDS) in Yorkville to this building.
- Our DeKalb Community Mental Health Center just celebrated it's renovation, courtesy of the DeKalb County Mental Health Board, that adds six new offices and a group meeting room. We love community partners like DCMHB!
- Our Highland Community Mental Health Center in Aurora is set to receive upgraded floors and windows courtesy of a grant awarded by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.
- We also recently applied with Hesed House and the Neighbor Project for funding to create a new 20 unit Permanent Supportive Housing project in Aurora.
- AID opened its new Living Room location in Aurora, we have opened several new CILAs in affordable housing buildings, our Street Outreach Team is expanding with new funding resources, and so many more amazing things are happening at AID!

Of course it costs money to renovate, rehabilitate and purchase properties but the need is great in the communities we serve! If you would like to partner with AID on our Capital Projects or Programs, please contact Christie Plotzke, Associate Vice President of Resource Development or myself at RD@AIDcares.org.

We rely on our community partners, like you, to meet the needs of our friends and neighbors.

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

Lore Baker
AID President & CEO



SENIOR STAFF



LORE BAKER
President and CEO



DR. RAJNISH J. MANDRELLE
Chief Operating Officer



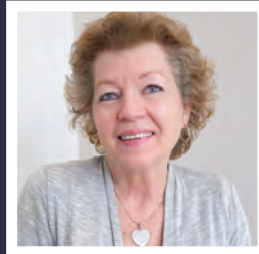
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Kimberly Lynch, *AVP of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Services*

Samantha Moylan, *AVP of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Services*

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Donors make AID Giving Tuesday 2023 a Success!

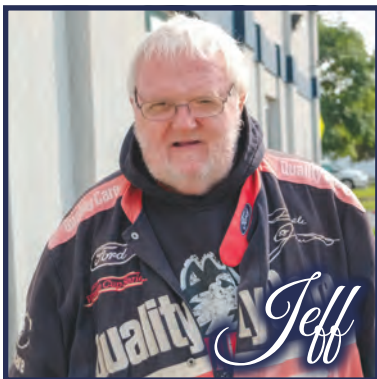
Thank you to all of our AID champions for the tremendous outpouring of support during Giving Tuesday 2023! Giving Tuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. The concept has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. This recent Giving Tuesday, we recognized a few inspiring individuals participating in AID programs. They are making positive strides in their lives thanks to their hard work, our dedicated staff and your generous support.



AID Employment First is a unique program that assists clients seeking jobs by providing necessary support and guidance with the ultimate goal of ensuring the right match for both employer and client. With the help of AID Employment Specialists, Shavon landed a job as a peer self-advocate with the Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services. She visits multiple agencies throughout North Eastern Illinois that provide community day services and production work and gives presentations to the clients about the importance of self-advocacy at the personal, community and statewide level. Shavon says that having a job has helped her increase independence and feel more confident.



The AID Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCR-T) is a free, on demand, crisis intervention service available to anyone in Southern Kane or Kendall County. These services are provided by a multi-disciplinary team of trained mental health professionals which includes Crisis Counselors and Recovery Support Specialists. Recently, MCR-T was involved in a situation with an individual who was making suicidal statements and refusing to engage with police. MCR-T arrived wearing AID shirts and were able to diffuse the situation, provide a suicide risk assessment and the individual now regularly checks in with the AID staff. Individuals experiencing a mental health crisis can call 630-966-4357 (HELP) and request MCR-T.



AID Behavioral Health Outpatient Services (BHOP) is a comprehensive program which encompasses individual and group counseling, therapy (on site/in-home/in the community), children and family services and case management. When Jeff began AID BHOP services in DeKalb several years ago he had a goal of improving his mental health and staying sober for his great nephews and nieces. With the guidance of one-on-one case management, Jeff has regained control of his life and was provided the support to achieve his goals.

The inspiring stories and accomplishments featured in this letter are a mere glimpse of the essential programs AID offers throughout DeKalb, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, McHenry, suburban Cook and Will counties.

We are grateful that community members like you continue to help our friends, family members and neighbors strive for a better tomorrow. **Thank You!**

AID Hosts “A Night Among the Stars” Benefit Auction

AID hosted “A Night Among the Stars” benefit auction on Thursday, September 28th at the Q Center in St. Charles. Unique items were up for bid and exciting games took place throughout the evening. AID successfully raised over \$200,000, with all proceeds going towards supporting over 5,200 individuals currently receiving AID services for developmental, behavioral, and crisis needs.

During the “Fund-A-Need” portion of the night, generous auction supporters helped AID clients with a multitude of much needed financial support. These needs included:

- **Increasing and Enhancing Client Community Experiences:**

This assistance helps bring new, varied and frequent opportunities for clients to experience community events that involve a monetary barrier. A few examples of experiences for AID clients include: athletic center memberships, park district activities, admission passes to local swimming pools, mini golf, sporting events, movies, and bowling, admission to seasonal activities like apple and pumpkin picking, and access to therapeutic animal encounters.

- **Create Employment “Attire Closet”:** AID Employment Specialists assist clients seeking jobs by providing necessary skills and guidance. The goal is to ensure the right match for both employers and clients. In an effort to meet this goal, clients seeking employment in the community are often in need of both interview and work-appropriate attire. This need often includes appropriate shoes, dress shirts and pants.

- **Crisis Care Packages:** AID Street Outreach staff often assist individuals in need of both essential items and comforting items: Essentials-self-care items, cleaning supplies, pillows, towels, sheets, socks, hats, gloves, coats, undergarments; Unhoused-backpacks, tents, tarps, hats, gloves, coats, undergarments, self-care items; Calming/Coping-essential oil roll-ons, oil diffusers, fidgets, adult coloring books with colored pencils, stress balls, soft blankets

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the auction financially and with their time and talent.



A NIGHT
Among
THE STARS



Visit AIDCARES.ORG/EVENTS
for information about the upcoming
Summer Stroll & Roll and Benefit Auction.

New Affordable Housing Development Underway in Aurora

A collaborative endeavor is underway to repurpose a vacant school building in Aurora into a hub for community support and affordable housing tailored to vulnerable populations. The initiative is led by AID, The Neighbor Project, and Hesed House. Recently, with the assistance of Congressman Bill Foster, the group secured \$3,000,000 in community project funding from the federal government to aid in the acquiring and renovating of the vacant property.



The project will create 20 independent apartment units, with 10 units located within the renovated school building, and 10 new construction units built on part of the existing parking lot. These units will cater to individuals and families transitioning from homelessness, facing the risk of homelessness, or living with disabilities. Each apartment will be designed to be inclusive and accessible to all residents, guaranteeing equal access for everyone.

The project is undergoing planning and approval phases with the aim to commence construction later this year and finalize development by the end of 2025/early 2026.

The project partners each bring distinct skills and assets to the endeavor. AID delivers various supportive services, such as developmental disabilities, behavioral health and crisis support. The Neighbor Project offers a homeownership pathway program, augmented by financial empowerment and coaching facilitated in collaboration with the City of Aurora. Hesed House provides referral, placement, and case management services for individuals who are experiencing homelessness.



Snapshots: **PHOTOS AROUND THE AGENCY**



Thank you to the fierce and competitive Aurora 88s Roller Derby team for their generous support and naming AID as their non-profit for the month of February! Learn more about the Aurora 88s online: www.Aurora88s.com



Recently, Elgin Township allocated funds to support AID programs and services, including Street Outreach, Nutrition Education, and transportation for our residents. For many years, we have been fortunate to call this community home.



In December, The Kiwanis Club of Elgin AID Aktion Club helped fundraise for the Salvation Army (Elgin) by bell ringing outside Wal-Mart (Elgin). Thank you to all who stopped by, said hello and made a donation!



Thank you to the team at Baird & Warner (Algonquin) for nominating AID and CASA Kane County as last year's "Good Will Works" local office grant recipients! We are grateful for the team's generosity and support in helping AID provide community-based programs and services.



After an incredible 45 years of devoted service to our agency, we bid farewell to Cheryl Stead, our esteemed Executive Assistant, as she embarks on a well-deserved retirement. Cheryl has been an integral part of our team, embodying professionalism, dedication, and kindness throughout her tenure. Thank you Cheryl!



February's DeKalb Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly updated AID office space was a resounding success! We were thrilled with the turnout as we celebrated the ability to expand access to behavioral health services to the residents of DeKalb County.



Thank you to State Representative Anna Moeller (D-43) for visiting one of our Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILA) to meet with the AID team and resident to learn about support for people in their homes.



With the assistance of our exceptional donors, AID brought joy to clients by providing gifts during the holiday season. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following groups for their invaluable support: Batavia Rotary Club, Bethany of Fox Valley United Methodist Church (Aurora), Bethlehem Lutheran (W. Dundee), The Dalton Family, St. John Neumann Catholic Church (St. Charles), St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church (W. Dundee), St. Charles Noon Rotary Club, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, The Wrapping Party (Aurora), Wesley United Methodist Church (Aurora) and Yorkville Congregational Church.

MEMORIALS

9/15/23 - 2/14/24

Ben Alexander

Greg and Patrice
Alexander

Kim Clark

Steven and Karen
Williams

Carole Engeln

George and Denise
Engeln
Robert and Alyce
Langbein
Kathy Oliver

Tom Gnadt

Joy Springer

Lori Guddendorf

Donna Guddendorf
Alan and Donna
Shackleton

Troy Kluber

Peter and Kathy
Andrews
Michael and Sandra
Murphy
Richard and Eileen
Petesh

Troy Kluber (cont.)

Phil and Patti
Schalz
Richard and Susan
Schindel

Lev Podorovsky

Joy Springer

Dennis Volpicelli

Elizabeth Kimzey

HONORARIUMS

9/15/23 - 2/14/24

Scott Bennett

Eugene Bennett
Margaret Bennett

Carol and Ed Broski

Florence Fullwood

Andrea Consolatti-Giera

Nina Consolatti

Allan Diaz

Ronald Zywicki

Matthew Ehrenberg

Rita Ehrenberg

Stanley Horst

Gwen McNatt

Linda Hartmann

Charles Welsh
Jenna O'Connell

Stanley Horst

Gwen McNatt

Charles Kuen

Thomas and Deborah
Russo

Creighton Klotz

Curtis and Angela Klotz

Kelsey, Conner and Jack Lloyd

David Bixby

Norma Mailand

Joy Springer

Stephanie Norwood

Kathryn Norwood

Renee Phillips

Caryl Phillips

Ben Steinberg

Scott and Taryn
Goldstein

Abe Steinberg and

Candice Goldstein

Sherman and Sarene Rosen

Mary Trippon

Sue Wathen

Danny Trippon

Norman and Betty
Berthusen
John and Kathleen Mahony

Adam Wormley

Seth and Michelle Wormley

Billy Yoakam

Claude and Sue Mayo

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

9/15/23 - 2/14/24

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GRANTS & DONATIONS

9/15/23 - 2/14/24

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GRANTS & DONATIONS

9/15/23 - 2/14/24

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9/15/23 - 2/14/24

Sage Healing Collective (St. Charles)	St. Charles Pinot's Palette	Mark and Pam Truemper	Richard Westphal and Susan Palmer
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St. Charles Kiwanis Noon Club	Trinity Episcopal Church (Wheaton)	Barbara Weiner	
	Tripur International	Weldstar	
	Mary Trippon	Magdalena Welkomer	
	Donna Trowbridge	Charles Welsh	

UPCOMING EVENTS



ANNUAL MEETING - MAY 15 - EAGLE BROOK COUNTRY CLUB (GENEVA)

Join us for a celebration to recognize client achievement and honor the generosity and dedication of volunteers, donors, community supporters and employees who helped make 2023 a success. The AID Annual Meeting is open to the public. Keep an eye on AIDcares.org for an opportunity to R.S.V.P.



SUMMER STROLL & ROLL - JUNE 9 - PECK FARM PARK (GENEVA)

Enjoy a relaxing stroll or roll around the bucolic Peck Farm (Geneva), indulge in breakfast refreshments, learn about AID programs and services at various booths, hear from individuals and families with lived experience and raise funds to help AID provide services for individuals with developmental, behavioral and crisis needs across Kane, Kendall, DeKalb, DuPage, Will, McHenry and suburban Cook County communities. Stay tuned to AIDcares.org for more information and sponsorship opportunities!



BENEFIT AUCTION - OCTOBER 17 - Q CENTER (ST. CHARLES)

The largest in-person event of the year, the AID Benefit Auction is a night of fun and benevolence as attendees help raise important funds for AID programs and services. This event is successful thanks to generous business and individual donations and sponsorships. Contact Angela Cudmore, AID Events Coordinator at (847) 931-2294 or ACudmore@AIDcares.org to learn more or to make your donation. Stay tuned to AIDcares.org for more event information!

CONNECT WITH AID ONLINE TO DISCOVER EVERYDAY SUCCESSES AT AID!



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