



MILESTONE INC.

Building Lives • Building Futures

MATTERS

Newsletter For The Friends & Supporters of MILESTONE, Inc.

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NEWS DESIGNS UNVEILED FOR 2016 HOLIDAY CARDS

Orders are now being taken for the 6 designs created by the Artists at MILESTONE Industries for the 2016 Holiday cards.

A wide selection of greetings are also available. Cards are \$3.00 each and there

is a discount for ordering in August and September. An order form with complete pricing information is enclosed.

Last year was a record setting year with MILESTONE Industries filling orders for over 7000 cards, so please order yours early.



Snow Globe 2016



Worthy Wreath



Star of Wonder



Winter Afternoon Friends



Cardinal Clutches



The Present is a Gift



FROM THE DESK OF SHAWN WAY, MILESTONE PRESIDENT AND CEO

June 2016

Dear Friends of MILESTONE,

Last summer I penned my letter for MILESTONE Matters by addressing the budget stalemate in Springfield. A year ago we knew the Governor, Speaker Madigan and Senate Leader Cullerton were having difficulty “playing in the same sandbox”, but as elected officials, we knew they’d work things out.

Well, one year later...

There is no fiscal year 2016 budget for the state of Illinois. The initial deadline for passing an FY17’ budget has come and gone. MILESTONE has endured a \$461,000 reduction in revenues, as a grant funded by the state for the MILESTONE Dental Clinic for the past 16 years was eliminated. The MILESTONE Dental Clinic was founded 17 years ago to provide dental care for not only the individuals we serve every day here at MILESTONE, but another 1,700 intellectually and developmentally disabled children and adults that otherwise have difficulty finding adequate dental care for their unique medical and behavioral needs. The Board of Directors of MILESTONE, Inc. have supported continued care of our Dental Clinic patients, in the hope that the state would eventually realize this was the best bargain they could ever find for the needs of this difficult to serve community.

While we have downsized the Dental Clinic staff, we have continued serving our patients. We have continued meeting with local legislators in an effort to have the grant restored, or at least develop creative means by which to fund the clinic. We have worked with the Department of Human Services, continuing to emphasize the

fact that this tiny dental clinic in northern Illinois serves patients from 40 counties, and does so thanks to a grant that costs the state less than \$231 per patient per year. We continue to fight to find a solution that enables this fragile population to receive the care they deserve.

I wish I had the answers to all that ails the state of Illinois. We’re losing population. We lead the nation in property taxes (that’s not a good thing). Our public pensions are woefully underfunded. The intellectually and developmentally disabled community has been underfunded for a decade (our last cost of living increase from the state occurred in 2007). And now a dental grant that benefits the most vulnerable among us, has been eliminated.

If the measure of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable citizens, we may not want to look in the mirror.

Despite the doom and gloom in Springfield, you, our supporters, have never been better to MILESTONE. Our annual appeal last winter set an all-time high. Our Adopt-A-Camper efforts did so as well. The Rockford community has always been there for MILESTONE, and for that we are most appreciative. On behalf of the individuals and staff, we thank you.

My best to you and your families this summer.

Sincerely,

Shawn Way



SISTERS SHARE A SPECIAL BOND



Carol was in her 60s when she moved into MILESTONE, and her family says the transition was made easier because of the help

they received from the staff. Carol had always lived at home with her mother, and had worked at the Barbara Olson Center of Hope her entire adult life. But her mother was getting older, and soon more help was needed. Her sister, Cathy, had an addition built onto her home and her sister Carol and her mother moved in. After her mother died, Cathy hired caregivers to help with Carol. But, in 2013 Cathy knew it was in her sister's best interest to start looking at residential placement. The family had been on MILESTONE's waiting list for several years, so after contacting Access Services about her decision to pursue placement they waited until they heard about openings. The call came several months later telling the family there was an opening at MILESTONE's Elmwood Heights facility, and wanting to know if they were interested. Cathy said she really needed to give it some thought because they really were hoping for an opening at one of the Group Homes. But, she and Carol visited and agreed it would be a good fit. Carol could still attend Day Training at the Center of Hope with her friends, and there was enough activity to keep Carol busy and happy. She enjoys helping the staff fold laundry and make coffee, and going to the main administration building to see people and help out if needed.

Cathy said her mind was put at ease about the decision quickly, because MILESTONE's staff made communication easy. Looking back she says she



wishes she would have done this years ago, because her sister's quality of life has improved, mostly because of the number and variety of community outings. Carol still goes to the church of her choice every other Sunday with staff, loves going to the movies and out

to eat. Cathy says her sister has blossomed since moving to MILESTONE because of all the activities and interaction with other people.

She says if families are looking at possible placement for a loved one she recommends the planning process start as soon as the family is comfortable doing it. That way you are not making a decision during a crisis, and you are sure it is the best decision possible. She also recommends making sure you



have current and future Guardianship needs covered.

Cathy added one of the hardest things she had to admit was that someone else could care for her sister as well as she had. But she has seen that is possible at MILESTONE.

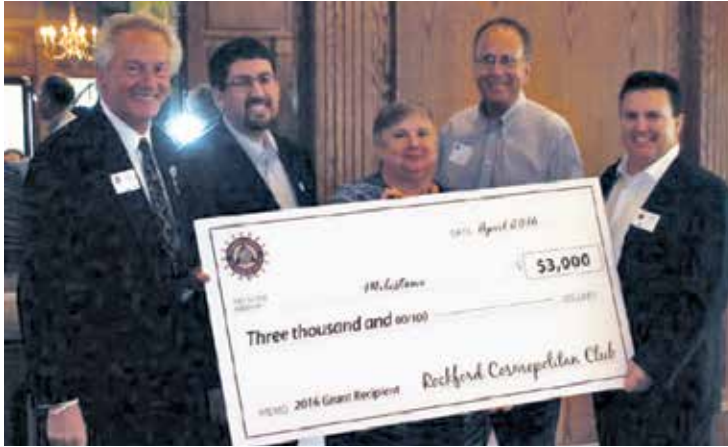


MILESTONE MISSION STATEMENT

"Everyone has the right to be treated with respect, to participate in community life, to develop and exercise personal competence, to have family and friends, and to make decisions in their lives." MILESTONE, Inc. exists to ensure that persons with developmental disabilities can exercise these same rights.



COSMOPOLITAN CLUB HELPS THE DENTAL CLINIC



A grant from the Rockford Cosmopolitan Club will help pediatric patients at the Milestone Dental Clinic who are underinsured receive the care they need. The Cosmopolitan Club, with nearly 200 members, is the largest service club in the Rockford area and the largest Cosmopolitan Club in the international organization.

HELEN BRACH FOUNDATION HELPS THE MILESTONE DENTAL CLINIC



A grant from the Helen Brach Foundation will provide the funding for needed equipment for the MILESTONE

Dental Clinic and so un and under insured patients can get the dental care they need. The MILESTONE Dental clinic provides care to children and adults with developmental disabilities from 18 counties in Illinois, including the Chicago area.

THANK YOU ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT



Many MILESTONE Individuals will be able to enjoy camp this year thanks to a grant from the Rockford Park District. The grant helps pay for the use of the YMCA's Camp Winnebago for MILESTONE's camp program for individuals who are medically fragile.

ALPINE KIWANIS HELPS MILESTONE



The iPad program at MILESTONE Industries was expanded thanks to a grant from Alpine Kiwanis. The iPad program helps individuals learn both vocational and life skills.

THE MONSTER CUP GOLF PLAY DAY A SUCCESS

The second annual "Monster Cup" golf play day was a success with people having fun while raising money for Milestone. CEO Shawn Way wanted to create an event that was different and that had sizzle and everyone who took part agreed those goals were met.



THANK YOU MONSTER CUP GOLF PLAY DAY SPONSORS

Event Sponsors

Rockford Bank and Trust	Graham Spencer
Rock River Block	WIPFLI
Mercyhealth	Cigna
Williams Manny	Genoa Pharmacy
LaMonica Beverage	CorPro

Monster Sponsors

DiBenedetto & Associates	Venetian Club
HMC Products	Viking Chemical
Mechanical, Inc.	WilliamsMcCarthy, LLP

Hole Sponsors

Alpine Bank	OSF St. Anthony Medical Center
Dr. & Mrs. George Arends	Rock Valley Credit Union
Kent Heise	Rockford Sanitary Systems
Meridian	

**SAVE THE DATE:
OCTOBER 1, 2016
5TH ANNUAL GOLF PLAYDAY
BENEFITING:
ROCVALE CHILDREN'S HOME &
EASTER SEALS
PRAIRIE VIEW GOLF COURSE
BYRON**



HONORING OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER EFFORTS



MILESTONE nominated Joanie Eastman and Kelly Quinlan for recognition during the Association of Fundraising Professionals “Honor Your Own” event. Five years ago, Ms. Eastman saw the need at RocVale and organized a Golf Play Day, Kelly Quinlan joined her efforts and together they have raised tens of thousands of dollars for the children who call RocVale home.

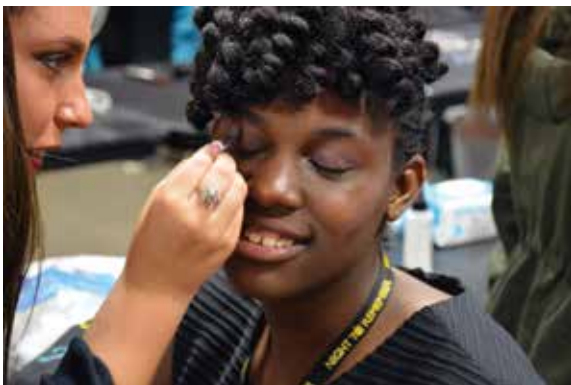


DR. ROBERT FOX NAMED MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Dr. Robert Fox was named the 2016 Lawrence G. Haggerty Award recipient for Research Excellence at Marquette University. Dr. Fox has served as MILESTONE’s clinical psychologist for nearly 33 years, meeting with the individuals MILESTONE serves and staff on a regular basis. Dr. Fox is also a Professor at Marquette University in Milwaukee and is currently the Acting Department Chair.

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Individuals from Milestone donned their formal wear and attended a special event in their honor at Heartland Community Church in May. “A Night To Remember” was a prom type event complete with limo service, boutonnieres and corsages and a red carpet entrance. Everyone enjoyed a meal by candlelight before heading to the dance floor. The individuals who attended each had their own unique experience but all agreed it truly was “A Night To Remember”.





SPECIAL OLYMPICS UPDATE

ATHLETES ENJOY JUNE GAMES

MILESTONE once again had the largest team at the regional Track and Field Competition with 116 athletes. Each Individual had a favorite part of the day from marching in the Opening Ceremonies, to competing in the various events to seeing old friends from other teams. Gold Medalists advanced to the State Games in Bloomington/Normal.

TRACK AND FIELD MEDALS

21
gold medals

25
bronze medals

20
silver medals

31
4th place ribbons





SPECIAL OLYMPICS TORCH RUN

Each year, for over 30 years, members of the Law Enforcement community run the Special Olympics torch from the Wisconsin-Illinois Border to Normal, Illinois and the ISU campus for the state games.

This year runners from both RocVale and the MILESTONE Group Homes joined the members of the Loves Park Police Department for part of the run.



Thank you to the Members of **Knights of Columbus Council 15530** who presented RocVale with a check from their annual Tootsie Roll drive, which will be used to help fund various projects for the children.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need a team of volunteers to help MILESTONE with outdoor window washing, at our 30 single story group homes, once a year. We will provide the needed supplies and equipment. If you have a group willing to help out please call our Development Office at 815-639-2965.

WAYS TO HELP MILESTONE

THERE ARE 2 WAYS YOU CAN HELP MILESTONE WHILE YOU SHOP

HELP MILESTONE EVERY TIME YOU SHOP AT AMAZON.COM



Amazon.com now has a new website that allows shoppers to choose a charity and when they shop a portion of every purchase is donated to that group. All you have to

do is visit the new site, www.smile.amazon.com, and select MILESTONE, Inc. as your charity of choice. After you register you will receive an e-mail verifying your choice. Then the next time you want to shop at Amazon simply use the www.smile.amazon.com site and a donation will be made to MILESTONE.

HELP MILESTONE EVERY TIME YOU GROCERY SHOP



Help MILESTONE every time you shop at Schnucks through the eScrip Community Card program. All you have to do is pick up a free card at Schnucks, register

the card and designate MILESTONE as the non profit organization you want to help. Then give the card to the cashier when you check out. Each time you shop Schnucks will contribute up to 3% of your grocery bill to MILESTONE, at the same time you will earn a 10cent a gallon discount for every \$100 spent on gas purchased at Kelley Williamson.

MILESTONE, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) Illinois not-for-profit organization. MILESTONE Matters is developed to inform the public of the program services we offer to developmentally disabled citizens from Northern Illinois. To learn more about MILESTONE and the individuals we serve, please call (815) 654-6100.

President and CEO: M. Shawn Way
MILESTONE Matters Editor: Arles Hendershott
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EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

10 years

Linda Randecker April
Amy Beach June

15 years

Taquenia Brown June

20 years

Charu Chitale-Menon April
Stefany Ulrich May

25 years

Jacque LaMagdelaine April
Shannin Meyer May



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MILESTONE MATTERS

JUNE 2016



HELP SEND SOMEONE TO CAMP THIS SUMMER

Remember the fun you had at summer camp?

Help us make summer camp a reality for everyone at MILESTONE by adopting a camper.

For \$100 you can sponsor a camper for a week at Camp Albrecht in Iowa

Or

For \$65 you can sponsor a camper at Camp Winnebago, a program designed for our medically fragile individuals who need specialized attention and care.

Call the Resource Development department at 815-639-2965 for more information.