

GOLDIE FLOBERG NEWS

SPRING

2023

CEO Update

Spring has arrived and Goldie Floberg is blooming once again!

I personally love Spring! It brings a sense of growth, renewal, and brightness as the world around us comes back to life after the long winter. This spring is exceptionally special because Goldie Floberg is also emerging from its own prolonged winter focusing on surviving the global pandemic and *great resignation*. Now, we can enter our own new season to dream of a better future for the people we serve and their families.

Over the past few months, Goldie Floberg has shown promising signs of growth, marked by the addition of three new individuals to our adult community living program. These individuals represent the first of many additions since the pandemic. We are so excited to extend our services to these wonderful people.

Our internal focus has broadened from day-to-day safety to also improving support for our individuals with intellectual disabilities. Our ongoing effort to make dreams a reality includes raising funds for renovating our group homes, and ensuring every person served has their own bedroom. Additionally, we're developing our fourth wheelchair-accessible adult group home, reopening previously closed homes, and exploring a new cutting-edge service program to serve a desperately underserved population of children with high behavioral support needs.

It's great to see Goldie Floberg and our people blooming again. Follow us on social media so you can stay up-to-date on all the news!

John Pingo, CEO, and board member, Gordon Eggers, met up at the Cosmopolitan Club's dinner celebration. Goldie Floberg recently received generous funding to support community outings for the people we serve.

We Moved!



The Rockford Chamber of Commerce welcomed the Goldie Floberg administrative office with an official ribbon cutting on April 25th.

We're thrilled to announce our administrative office has relocated from the Center in Rockton to East State Street in Rockford. This new central location is easily accessible for the people we serve and many of our employees.

Although our Rockton building served us well for many decades, it was time for a change. The outdated space was solely used for our administrative staff, and we had too much space that we couldn't utilize or maintain effectively.

We're excited to offer our administrative staff, training classes, parents,

guardians, and the people we serve a new, clean, and safe work environment. We understand that when families consider our services, their first impression should be positive, professional, and comfortable, which wasn't always the case at the old building.

Recently, a family visited us for an admission, and we were thrilled to provide them with a designated and welcoming space to discuss their needs. We are proud and confident in our new space to invite families and the people we serve to visit.

Cosmopolitan Club Grant



Delivering Personalized Care for Each Person Served

Opal Abernathy, our Vice President of Program Services, plays a crucial role in providing personalized support and advocacy to the children, teenagers, and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities we serve. She oversees the Program Services and Qualified Intellectual Disabilities Professional team (caseworkers) to ensure that our clients receive the best in resources and services they need to thrive.

(Continued)

Delivering... (Continued)

Recently, Opal and her team addressed a guardian's concerns about their child, Riley, who needed an updated wardrobe that better fit his personality and style. Opal's team worked closely with Riley's guardians and Direct Support Professional (DSP) to provide him with new clothing that made him feel comfortable and confident.

Riley's guardian was thrilled with the efficient and caring response from Opal's team. At Goldie Floberg, we view positive feedback from families and guardians as the ultimate compliment. Opal's team showed that we take concerns and feedback seriously, and act quickly to ensure the highest quality of care for our clients.

**Meet Dee –
A Colleague and
Person Served**



We're thrilled to share the story of one of our clients, Dee. She started working in our office in 1998 to assist with shredding paper. Since joining our team 25 years ago, Dee has shown tremendous growth and has become an integral part of our group and workplace community.

Her contributions go beyond her work. Dee has formed a wonderful friendship with our Chief Financial Officer, who picks Dee up before work and treats her to fancy coffee drinks along the way. Their beautiful friendship is a testament to the power of kindness, compassion, and inclusion Goldie Floberg works to provide to our children, teenagers, and adults we serve with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

We're proud to watch and support Dee as she continues to thrive and reach her full potential at Goldie Floberg.



Sara with her medal after winning the wheelchair slalom.

**2023 Special Olympics –
12 State Qualifiers**

On May 13, 2023, Goldie Floberg enthusiastically took part in the Special Olympics, engaging in various events such as the softball throw, 50 meter walk, wheelchair races, and 25 meter run. We are thrilled to share that we have a total of 12 State Qualifiers who will be competing in June!



David and James during the Special Olympics



(from left to right) Tara, Sarah, Hope, and Amanda enjoying some fresh air and time together.

**Philanthropy – You Are An
Indispensable Partner**

Insufficient state funding creates challenging circumstances for Goldie Floberg to create the best environment for Dee and all the children, teenagers, and adults we serve. Philanthropy is essential for us to be able to provide beyond the basics of shelter, clothing, and food. Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities deserve fulfilling lives and to reach their full potential through educational outings, interesting options, and engaging entertainment.

By making donations, volunteering, and providing other types of support, you help Goldie Floberg continue our important work to provide safe and healthful environments, but also positively impact the lives of those we serve with empowering choices. Let's come together today to help the people we serve. Let us know how you want to help!

Scan this QR code with your mobile device camera to donate online at goldiefloberg.org.

**Thank you to all
donors providing support from
January 1 through April 30, 2023.**

Diane Ablett
Nick Aldridge
Carolyn Allison
Ann Alves
American Legion Auxiliary
Gregory Anderson
Jackie Anderson
Anything Aquatic, Inc.
Tracy Auton
Sheryl Bard
Deborah Bark
Joyce Barlow
John Bergstrom
Louis and Donna Bernabei
Jon and Carolyn Bieck
Ron and Arlene Blum
Donna Brookbank
Jeremy and LaVonne Brown
Deborah Burchett
Karin Bushaw
Todd and Stacey Byxbe
Eva Camacho
Campos Construction Inc.

Stephen and Mary Casper
Charles & Marie Von Weise
Charitable Trust
Dorothy Christensen
Steven and Susan Connell
Cheryl Donovan
John and Theresa Dotzel
Susan and Ray Eissens
Electrical Industry LMCC
Janet Ellis
Mathilda Endres
LaVona Farney
Jonathon and Pamela Ferguson
George and Laura Fischer
Barry and Diane Fitz
John and Joyce Fitzsimmons
Julie Fry
Stanley and Lois Garnhart
James and Mary Gesmer
Give Lively Foundation Inc.
Susan Grans

Mark and Jill Grove
Karen and Louis Gugliuzza
James and Julie Hansberry
Donna and Ronald Haskell
Hassingier Trust FBO
Jeremy Hauser
Renee Heinen
Pamela Hemenway
Patcharee Herrman
Rose Mary Highland
Thomas and Bonita Hooper
J. Carlson Growers Inc.
John and Cathy Cychosz
Foundation
Coe* and Ada Johnson
Joanne Johnson
Judith Johnson
Phyllis Johnson
Richard Johnson
Jeanette Jones
Michael Jones
Rick and Raeann Jurgens
Elizabeth Jurkovic
Barbara Kinroth
Paul Kleban
Pat and Ted Kline
Knights of Columbus #8021
Robert and Nancy Koopman

Tiffany Kragenbrink
Ralph Kreissler
Leigh Krtek
Herbert and Ruby Lash
Gary and Jean Lederer
Letourneau & Cleland LTD
Charles Lindstrom
Erik and Rena Lindstrom
Patty and Charles Listenbee
Rich and Nina Loveland
David Magnuson
Joanne Martin
Rebecca Martin
David McCurdy
Michael and Daina Mertens
Kathy Meyer
Bruce Middleton
Jose and Eileen Millan
Kathleen and D. Brad Miller
Sarah Miller
Miller Engineering Co.
Miner Family Charitable Trust
Linda Mitchell
Pamela Monroe
Joseph Musick
David and Georgeanne Norris

Jennifer and Kevin O'Brien
Robert and Constance Pauwels
Margaret Perrin
Joanne Peterson
The Piano Doctor
Lawrence and Roxanne Pincombe
John and Hilda Pingo
Charles and Diane Piper
Jim and Lucy Pirages
Maryjo and Nathan Pirages
Reynolds
Teresa Pyszka
Reese Family Charitable Foundation
Patrick and Lisa Rivers
Rockford Cosmopolitan Club
Roscoe Masonic Lodge 75
Roscoe VFW Post 2955
RSM McGladrey Inc.
Don and Faith Rufer
Lisa and Joseph Santiago
Schmeling Construction Company
William and Jo Ann Schultheis

Thomas and Kay Schwalbach
Tex and Bette Shockey
Gary and Dorothy Siden
James and Joanne Smith
Jeanne Smith
South Beloit Lions Club
Nancy Swain
Roger and Martha Szymczak
John and Lisa Tallman
Kari Taylor
Ingrid Tejes-Webb
Doug Thompson and Jean Follett
Anthony Toney
Richard and Carol Ulasz
Janet Vaccarello
Kathy and Albert Velasco
Angela Wilhelms
Laura and Faron Wilkinson
Diane and Dean Zanocco

* in memorium

(Please contact us if you notice an error or omission. Thank You!)