

GOLDIE FLOBERG NEWS

SUMMER

2023

We're Making Room

Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) provide 24/7 care and companionship to the people we serve with intellectual developmental disabilities (I/DD). DSPs are literally the heart of Goldie Floberg, but YOU are critical to our success too!

Facing Challenges

We're still experiencing a challenging contraction in the labor market. This persistent situation affects our ability to reopen homes closed during the pandemic so we can better serve our clients as well as serving additional people with I/DD seeking placement.

Our Short-Term Solution

We can add two new, private bedrooms and one shared, full bathroom to the lower level of three homes we've identified for immediate expansion. This ensures each person served has their own private bedroom and each live-in DSP has private sleeping quarters. It's a great strategy because we can increase capacity without increasing the number of DSPs.

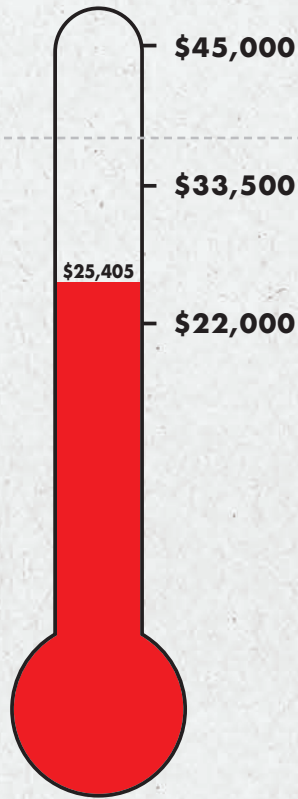
Each remodel costs about \$85,000. This is a wise investment for our future, but we can't fund the expansion on our own.

We've partnered with our community for over one hundred years. And community support through philanthropy is still the key to expanding our capacity and achieving mission success today.

We want to move quickly. How can you help us Make Room at Goldie Floberg?



We Have a Match!



of crucial purchases scheduled for this year. These essential items include six training mannequins, six HVAC units, three replacement flooring, and seven-bathroom rehabs.

They challenged us to raise \$45,000 from *NEW* donors and they will match with their own \$45,000 gift to help us complete all these important upgrades and replacements. Today, we are happy to share that we are over halfway to our goal of raising \$45,000 from *NEW* donors!

We have a way to go and need your help! As a loyal supporter, please reach out and educate your friends, family members, and colleagues and introduce them to Goldie Floberg and our mission. After you have read this newsletter, please pass it on for someone else to read and encourage them to lend their support! Every donation, no matter the size, helps us reach our goal of this matching gift!

We are excited to share that an incredibly generous donor reached out with a great opportunity after they learned about our comprehensive list

Meet Stephen - A Generous Supporter

Stephen Schmeling's introduction to Goldie Floberg came through former board member, John Smith. As Steve became familiar with our mission and the individuals we serve, his passion deepened, influenced significantly by individuals such as long-time volunteer Georgeanne Eggers. His deepening commitment led him to immerse himself fully in our organization, ultimately leading him to join our Board of Directors and eventually serving as President.



Stephen and Juliette Schmeling

Steve and his wife, Juliette, believe in giving back to their local community. In his words, their philanthropic endeavors [help], "organizations that support individuals in which their life situations are beyond their own control."

Goldie Floberg aligns with Steve's motivations, as his focus has always

been on people with special needs, and we serve both children and adults with disabilities.

Although Steve no longer serves on our Board of Directors, he continues to support our organization and mission through volunteerism and philanthropy. Steve believes our mis-

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Stephen... *(Continued)*

sion to, “empower and enrich the lives of the people we serve,” comes to fruition daily, as he has, “personally heard many stories about the life changing successes of entire families due to the incredible care their loved one receives,”

We want to thank Steve and all our loyal donors for helping Goldie Floberg enrich the lives of our children, teenagers, and adults. Because of you, the people we serve are active participants in setting up their life goals and creating special days of significance. Thank you!

*The Georganne Eggers
Legacy Society*

We gratefully recognize our donors who include Goldie Floberg in their estate plans.

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Scott & Erica Krowczyk	James Smith
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Thank You!

The Gold Club – An Exclusive Program for our Direct Support Professionals

Our leadership team has brainstormed strategies aimed at acknowledging our Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) and other staff members who exemplify the values of our organization. In July, we introduced a new program, the **Gold Club**, designed to commend our dedicated DSPs who consistently “Show Up and Do Good” for the people we serve.

To be eligible, DSPs must Show Up with great attendance, and Do Good with great performance. For those meeting the eligibility criteria, benefits include an hourly pay differential, exclusive Club apparel, a free pair of

work-appropriate shoes, access to interest-free loans, and monthly gift cards.

Our goal is to motivate every DSP to become a part of our Gold Club.

Since our launch, we are delighted to announce that we have already inducted **six outstanding members** into the **Gold Club**. We hope to increase membership with our upcoming induction ceremony in October.

To learn more, visit John Pingo’s thought leadership blog at goldiefloberg.org/blog.

Scan this QR code for John Pingo’s Blog.



Kristen’s Story

Since Kristen was sixteen, she has wanted to be her own guardian. To Kristen, being her own guardian means that, “I get to make really good choices and better choices [for myself] ... and it makes me feel happy.”



The court appoints guardianships in cases where individuals with disabilities are unable to independently make responsible decisions for themselves. Guardians are responsible for making judgements concerning medical care, living arrangements, financial matters, among others. For Kristen to become her own guardian, she had had to file a court petition, undergo several evaluations, and attend multiple court ap-

pointments to demonstrate her ability to make responsible decisions for herself.

After a year, Kristen received an email announcing she was her own guardian, and we couldn’t be happier for her! Kristen moved to Goldie Floberg four years ago; she speaks fondly of her experience saying she, “Loves it. It’s a great agency and this is the best place I have ever been.”

After becoming her own guardian, Kristen’s goals for herself include obtaining her GED, “which I’ll do through Rock Valley... Then I want to enroll myself in mechanic [programs] ... I want to be a mechanic. I love cars!”

We are so happy for Kristen’s remarkable achievement, and eagerly anticipate her future accomplishments as she embarks on this new chapter in her life as her own guardian.

Thank you to all donors providing support from May 1 through July 31, 2023.

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