

### Talent Abounds

For several years, the SASi Celebration has been an evening featuring the beauty and talent of our own Moving Miracles dancers but new in 2015, the event also highlighted the varied talents of four individual artists.

Mitchell Law was music to the eyes and ears. He serenaded guests with melodies on the bass cello, all played from memory. He paired his musical melodies with a custom designed light show.

Chris Czech drew a recreation of the Last Supper, using colored pencils and markers. Chris also works from memory.

Abstract artist, Dan Blasdell starts his drawings with random "scribbles" that take shape into an image mid-design. "I draw until I see what the picture is becoming." Guests were impressed by Dan's ability to pull his random forms together into his final piece.

Watercolor was the chosen medium for painter Patricia Yekich. Tricia created a beach scene that reminded her of her favorite vacation spot and she completed her design with seashells that she collected from the beach.

Each artist donated their beautiful creations to the silent auction that was held at the event. We look forward to showcasing several new artists at the 2016 event.











the Foundation Board of Directors for three and a half years. As a member of the board, Anthony is expected to attend quarterly meetings, review/vote on financial reports and review/vote on requests for funding.

Board Secretary, a role that includes, but is not limited to, the additional responsibilities of reviewing/approving/amending meeting minutes and attesting to legal documents.



Anthony is the first SASi participant to hold an officer position on either the Corporate or Foundation Board of Directors. He brings a refreshing perspective to his fellow board members and is a great



### the Golden Arches

Paul Hatfield poses above with his supervisors Amy and Sue, at the Springville McDonald's Oscar awards.

Paul received a Ronald McDonald award for 20 plus years of service as a crew member.

Paul started working at McDonalds in August of 1994, and has been a valued crew member and part of the McDonalds family for two decades!

His manager and his fellow crew members are looking forward to many more years with Paul on the team.

# Frazer Elected Secretary

Anthony Frazer has been a valued member of

In 2015, Anthony was elected to the role of



# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Transition: "A movement, development, or evolution from one form, stage, or style to another."



Suburban Adult Services, Inc.

### From the President & CEO

The year 2015 ended with the successful completion of the merger between Claddagh Commission and SASi. The Claddagh Residential and Day Habilitation programs became a Division of SASi and all other departments and services were integrated within the SASi organization. I wish to commend the Board members, staff, families and individuals from both organizations for their vision, input and support throughout the almost two year process. I believe that we are now better positioned to continue to provide the excellent supports, and person-centered services that we are recognized for by NYS.

Although the merger kept us very busy, we were also excited to participate in what will be a two-year long capacity building initiative called "Get Set". Funding for the program is being provided by a grant through the Tower Foundation.

I am very pleased to report that the newly developed 24-unit Elliott Woods Apartment Complex in Hamburg, New York completed its first full year of operation with an 88% occupancy rate. Many of the residents receive some level of support. However, the apartments provide a fully accessible environment for independent living. Moving Miracles, also in the first full year under SASi, initiated an expansion of services with the addition of an Adaptive Fitness Program. This innovative program is a great compliment to the dance and movement component.

While enjoying the excitement of growth and development of 2015, we were also saddened by the passing of two long time SASi friends. George Gebhard was a board member and SASi supporter for over 31 years. Tom Stuhler was employed for 29 years as the SASi Coordinator of Operations. Both gentlemen contributed so much to our success and are dearly missed.

As always, we look forward to the challenges ahead and remain confident in our ability to continue to meet the needs of families throughout the Western New York region. We remain committed to our promise to enhance and enrich the lives of individuals with disabilities.

Anthony Annunziato,

SASi President & CEO

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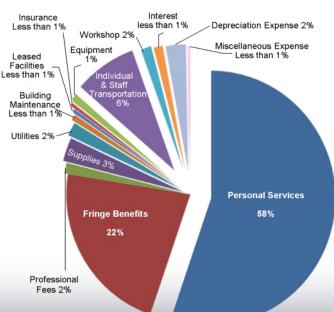
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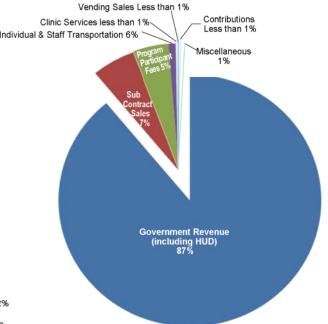
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Tammy Yekich

### Financial Reports

Revenue:	
Government Revenue	\$26,097,107
HUD	\$27,716
Sub Contract Revenue	\$2,010,101
Program Participant Fees	\$1,534,187
Clinic 3rd Party Reimbursement	\$231,191
Investments	-\$44,407
Vending Sales	\$28,178
Contributions	\$97,452
Miscellaneous	\$116,815
Total Revenues	\$30,098,339





Expenses:	
Personal Services	\$17,307,302
Fringe Benefits	\$6,569,066
Professional Fees	\$543,643
Supplies	\$826,298
Utilities	\$494,501
Building Maintenance	\$220,170
Leased Facilities	\$170,764
Insurance	\$139,462
Equipment Expense	\$288,411
Individuals & Staff Transportation	\$1,884,342
Workshop Expense	\$476,529
Interest Expense	\$246,788
Deprecation Expense	\$711,569
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$73,433
Total Expenses \$	29,952,290

# Independence is Happiness. ~ Susan B. Anthony

As a recent addition to SASi's developing person centered approach to services, two non-certified apartment buildings are now home to 24 individuals, in an independent setting. For 13 of the tenants, this is their first time living in their own apartment. Eleven individuals moved from home with their families, and two moved from IRAs or supportive type settings. Each 12-unit apartment building offers five accessible and seven non-accessible one bedroom units. The buildings are also close to public transportation and shopping complexes. These features promote independence and encourage individuals to utilize their new communities. Additionally, some tenants benefit from offered support, such as rental subsidies, utility aid, and in home assistance as needed to overcome barriers to independent living. The tenants often organize pot luck dinners, game nights, and other friendly activities in the community rooms of their new homes.



Kim K, enjoying a visit with her mom in her new apartment



# A Beautiful Voice...

Carla Tischendorf from the Glenwood IRA is a member of the *Momentum Western New York Choir*. They meet on Thursdays at the Guitar Factory in West Seneca. Carla started singing with the choir in December, 2015. Their first concert was March 3, 2016 at Fredonia State University where the conductor, Dr. Joni Milgram-Luterman, is the Associate Professor Director of Music Therapy. Carla had a solo at



this concert where she performed "Thank You for Being a Friend" by Andrew Gold. The motto for the choir is "Belong, Believe, Inspire."





The Elma Day Habilitation drumming group is back in business with the help of Scott Helfrich. Scott (IT consultant) has offered his time to come in weekly on his lunch hour to get the drumming group up and running. Under Scott's direction, "The Beatdown Drummers" have been practicing a new style of beat called the Djembe Drum beat. There are two drum groups. The first group is made up of those that have learned skills and are ready to perform. The second group are those who are

newer and still practicing and improving their skill level. The group is eager to get on the road and perform and already have a performance lined up at DD DAY on May 26, 2016.

### NATIONAL DISABILITY

#### **EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH**

My Disability is One Part of Who I Am

In honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), New York State's Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) recognized the Springville Walmart for their efforts to have a diverse workforce including those with disabilities. One of their employees with a disability, David Gray, was also recognized for his achievements. David started as a cart attendant 14-years ago and has worked diligently to become one of their most proficient cashiers. The awards were presented to Walmart and David at a ceremony in Albany.

#### WAL\*MART \*



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a Dream of Mine

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#### In Memory of George Gebhard

Parent, businessman and construction contractor George Gebhard, worked his whole life ensuring services and opportunities were available for his daughter with a developmental disability. George used his expertise to help build the West Seneca Workshop and ended up

SASi's services. George devoted the next 31 years serving on both the Corporate and Foundation Boards of Directors, as an active member of the Parent Committee and the Golf Tournament Event



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Marybeth Witherow

In Memory of Edwin Rothman Mark Lillenstein

Happy Birthday William Ruminski Mary Ruminski

In Memory of William Schuster Patricia Heary

In Memory of Thomas Stuhler



1986. Tom In started what would be a long history with SASi. Tom was a part of the SASi family for 29 years. Ten years later he was promoted into **Operations** 

Coordinator position. From SASi's Sardinia location, he oversaw the agency's production and maintenance departments, as well as the SAGE Janitorial Department. Everyone who had the opportunity to meet Tom or have a conversation with him, more than likely experienced his infectious smile, quick-wit and sense of humor. He is missed by all who knew him!

Donors: Anthony Annunziato Lynn Kelly

In Memory of Ronald Swartz Linda Swartz

In Memory of Sandra Weiskopff Donna Manuszewski

In Memory of Frank Wood Anthony Annunziato In Honor of Tricia Yekich

Robert & Tammy Yekich In Honor of Norbert Zdrojewski Henrietta Zdrojewski



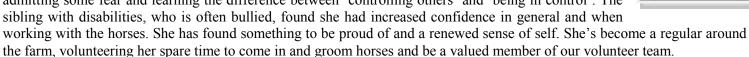
As hard as we try to get everyone's name listed and spelled correctly, mistakes do happen. We sincerely apologize if we have made an error and ask that you report it to our Development Office at (716)805-1555. Doing so will help prevent us from making the same mistake again.

Thank Your for your support in 2015!

## **More Riders + More Lessons = More Smiles**

High Hurdles is pleased to have reached the 150 mark for riders served, including four riders from Florida. One Florida family really took advantage of being able to ride and was even coming twice weekly at some points because it helped so much. The family saw improved coordination, greater ability to focus, and overall improvement in their daughter's attitude when she spends time on the horses.

A trial run of the sibling program was launched in 2015 and was very well received. There were 3 pairs of siblings in the trial, all happened to each be boy/girl pairs. One family saw a huge improvement in both siblings. The sibling without disabilities, showed a change in attitude when working with the horses, admitting some fear and learning the difference between 'controlling others' and 'being in control'. The



High Hurdles has also received CHA accreditation. The *Certified Horsemanship Association* is a national organization that sets professional standards for riding facilities. High Hurdles has met and exceeded those recommended standards and is now accredited. High Hurdles is one of the few facilities in the area that meets this criteria. In addition to the facility accreditation, Megan Stapley is now a CHA certified riding instructor. She was assessed by some of the top CHA clinic instructors in the country and was deemed a qualified and safe instructor. Megan is approved as an instructor for both English and

Western riding lessons and is one of 24 certified riding Certified Horsemanship Association CHAY instructors within a 55 mile radius of Sardinia, NY.

# **Feeling Fit**





SASi is pleased to announce the start up of an adaptive fitness program at Southgate Plaza. This program is an extension of the Moving Miracles' Dance Studio and shares a philosophy that supports individuals' health and wellness initiatives and recognizes the important role they play in our daily lives, whether dancing, working out or going for a long walk. Following a successful pilot program during the summer of 2015, SASi decided to move forward on phase II of the project.

Central to those living within or around the city of Buffalo, the Southgate location seemed an ideal site to create this opportunity. One of our dance studios has been dedicated as the fitness center already housing a recumbent stepper purchased by the SASi Foundation. Moving Miracles anticipates announcement of the official launch of the adaptive fitness program in July 2016.

# **Moving Miracles**



Development of the fitness program did not slow anything down in the dance studio. Moving Miracles continued its momentum introducing authentic art experiences to the dancers, volunteer dance partners and the artistic influence of our teaching staff. SASi's Director of Quality Assurance John Bowles, an authored poet, has created ethereal pieces speaking to the human condition for the 2015 and 2016 season productions. Dancers from the Moving Miracles Company Dancers move in tempo to the spoken word creating soulful combinations of words and movement.

Stage Door Connections of NYC brought professional dance experiences to the Moving Miracles doorstep with Master classes and performances at Shea's Performing Arts Center. Cast members of the touring companies of Broadway's 'Kinky Boots' and 'Pippin' gave Master classes and shared original production choreography.



**Sasiadaptive Fitness** 

**PROGRAM**