



MILESTONE INC.

Building Lives • Building Futures

MATTERS

Newsletter For The Friends & Supporters of MILESTONE, Inc.

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HELP US MAKE THIS SUMMER SPECIAL



Summer camp is a yearly highlight for the Individuals we serve here at MILESTONE. However, like so many things we've all missed out on since the COVID-19 pandemic started, our guys and gals won't be venturing off to camp again this summer...so we're bringing camp to them!

Through our Summer Camp "STAYCATION" program we'll bring camp to the Individuals we serve through a combination of activities, virtual events and an area we've developed at MILESTONE Industries, "Camp MILESTONE". It promises to be fun and rewarding for all!

It's been a long, difficult year, but there are "Brighter Day's Ahead".

Please help us make our Adopt-A-Camper "STAYCATION" come to life this summer. Your support will help ensure we can provide all the programs we can develop throughout the summer.

For \$50 you can provide an activity box we'll deliver to a Group Home

Or

For \$100 you can Adopt-A-Camper for their entire "STAYCATION".

For more information please call the Development Office at 815.639.2965, and thank you in advance for helping put smiles on the faces of the Individuals we serve!





FROM THE DESK OF SHAWN WAY, MILESTONE PRESIDENT AND CEO

Friend of MILESTONE,

Summer, 2021.

What a difference a year makes. I hope and pray that you, your friends and family have come through the COVID pandemic in a spot where you can appreciate life and look forward to better times. This was a game-changer, but like so many times throughout the course of history we come together, experience a deeper appreciation for the gifts we've received and lead the next generation toward the light of the future.

We have not returned to our pre-COVID lifestyle, but we've made progress. Many of the individuals we serve have returned to Day Training, family visits are back. We continue to don masks and follow safety protocols, but we're closer to life as we knew it.

For many, the difficulty of the past year involves the mental strain, the loss of friends and family. Despite a fair amount of COVID infection, our individuals and staff fared quite well. Unfortunately many individuals and staff experienced loss. And as we all know, the opportunity to visit loved ones, especially during this most difficult time was lost. The mental anguish of COVID will be with us for some time. We are doing our best to help individuals and staff cope with their loss.

Turning the page, our nation is coming out of the pandemic. The economy is opening up but there are a large number of adults yet to return to work. We are experiencing a staffing shortfall unlike anything we've seen before. It is impacting operations as we are stretching dedicated staff and supervisors. These people who battled through COVID are now facing grueling schedules, many working 80 hours or more each week. We need your help. Soon you'll be seeing billboards and television commercials making it abundantly clear, "We're Hiring". If you know of anyone looking to work in a meaningful field, doing God's work, let them know we're in need. Competitive wages, health insurance, 401k, self-scheduling and a good night's sleep knowing they are doing good work.

Finally, for those that have visited us at our McFarland Road corporate office, you've likely been greeted by Judy Totten, the world's most pleasant human (don't tell her I said that, she's always nasty to me). Always happy, wonderful to the individuals we serve, staff and our guests. After 30 years, Judy is retiring on June 30. We have been blessed.

Sincerely,

M. Shawn Way
President and CEO



Thank you Judy!

P.S. Share the link: jobsatmilestone.com with those looking to make a difference in lives.



LISTENING TO THE PROFESSIONALS



Everyday parents must make decisions about their children and the care they need. They also do their best to support their children in every way possible. Tracy's parents were no different, her Mom was involved in her school's PTO, and volunteered for many events. Both of her parents attended teacher conferences and asked the staff at Page Park School what they needed to do for their daughter on a long term basis. They were told Tracy would need 24 hour a day care for the rest of her life. At first her parents considered caring for her at home and having her attend a Day Training facility, but they found there were few options with long waiting lists. The school's staff recommended they look at MILESTONE, her parents did and Tracy was placed on a waiting list. When she graduated there was an opening at MILESTONE and she moved in. Her parents said it was an easy adjustment for

everyone because she had visited several times and had already made friends. Twenty years ago she moved to a smaller group home, and her parents say the transition was amazing. Tracy had her own room and thrived in the smaller setting and considers her housemates her family. She loves to sit outside and go on walks in the neighborhood, but her favorite activity is singing, and she wants visitors to always join her singing one of her favorite songs. She also



loves going to the grocery store and helping staff with the purchases. Her parents urge parents to start looking at service options early, like they did, because as the years pass it just gets harder for everyone. Also to trust the professionals and know they have the best interest of your child at heart. Tracy has a winning smile, a song in her heart, and an infectious personality, traits both her parents and the MILESTONE staff love and admire.

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.



HELEN BRACH FOUNDATION HELPS THE MILESTONE DENTAL CLINIC

A grant from the Helen Brach Foundation will provide the funding so uninsured 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 40 counties in Illinois, including the Chicago area.

HELPING UNINSURED PATIENTS AT THE MILESTONE DENTAL CLINIC

KJELLSTROM FAMILY FOUNDATION A grant from the Kjellstrom Family Foundation for MILESTONE's uninsured patient fund will insure people who need dental care will be able to receive it. The Kjellstrom Family Foundation was established in 2004, in memory of Janet Kjellstrom and her passion for philanthropy and helping others.

MONSTER CUP GOLF PLAY DAY



MILESTONE honored First Responder at the annual Monster Cup Golf Play Day, at The Mauh Nah Tee See Club on June 14th

Presenting Sponsors

Anderson Automotive Group
William Charles Construction

Event Sponsors

Professional Medical, Inc.
Gallagher Williams-Manny
LaMonica Beverage
Illinois Bank and Trust
Genoa Healthcare
Graham Spencer
WipFli
WilliamsMcCarthy LLP

ILLINOIS STATE DENTAL SOCIETY HELPS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID



A generous donation of surgical gowns and N95 face masks for the Dental Clinic staff from the Illinois Dental Society helped keep everyone safe from COVID 19. The MILESTONE Dental Clinic is one of the few Dental practices in the county dedicated to serving only children and adults with developmental disabilities.

BJORK MEMORIAL



Everyday when Dorothy Bjork looked out her window she would see the children at RocVale, playing, laughing and having a good time and it always made her smile. Her son wanted his Mother's memorial to capture that memory. That was the driving vision for a sensory walkway which



was installed in her memory along the bike path with help from Kids Around the World. Dorothy Bjork also loved flowers so each spring planters along the walkway will be filled with flowers.



MILESTONE INDUSTRIES IS FULL OF ACTIVITY

Individuals are happy to get back to work at MILESTONE Industries. Strict COVID protocols are being followed including temperature checks and facemasks to keep everyone safe.



NEW PRODUCTS AVAILABLE AT MILESTONE INDUSTRIES

Everyone has been busy at MILESTONE Industries working on a new product line featuring, bath bombs, bath salts, candle and scented wax melts. Prices start at \$1.50 each and go up to \$10 for a gift basket. For more information call Jill at 815-639-2835





ENJOYING SPRING

Everyone was anxious to get outside and enjoy the sun once the temperature allowed. Springtime fun includes grilling out, preparing gardens and kite flying.





MILESTONE NEEDS



ROCVALE CHILDREN'S HOME

New Furniture - 3 homes@ \$5,000.....	\$15,000
Therapeutic Recreational Opportunities.....	\$5,000
WIFI Upgrade.....	\$10,000



MILESTONE TRAINING CENTER

Outside Recreation Area Upgrades.....	\$2,000
Sensory Equipment - 12 Classrooms @ \$3000.....	\$36,000



MILESTONE INDUSTRIES

iPads - 4 @ \$400.....	\$1,600
Various Educational Materials.....	\$3,000

MILESTONE INC.



AGENCY WIDE

AED Training Units.....	\$2,000
Robo-Coupe Commercial Food Processor - 2 @ \$1,900.....	\$3,800
24 Chairs for Training Room.....	\$4,000
Smart Board and Stand for Training Room.....	\$6,100
Standing Cooler for Main Kitchen.....	\$32,000
12 and 15 Passenger Vans - 4 @ \$30,000.....	\$120,000
Training Room Tables and Chairs.....	\$10,000
Training Simulation Rooms.....	\$10,000
1 Wheelchair Van.....	\$50,000



ADULT GROUP HOMES

Slings for EZ-stand - 3 @ \$350.....	\$1,050
Patio.....	\$1,500
iPads - 4 @ \$400.....	\$1,600
Exercise Equipment.....	\$2,550
Support Railings.....	\$3,000
Washers and Dryers - 6 @ \$1,000.....	\$6,000
Screened Porch or 3 Season Room at 1 Group Home.....	\$7,000
Carports at 2 Group Homes.....	\$11,000
New Furniture - 10 Homes @ \$4,000.....	\$40,000
Bathroom Renovations - 2 @ \$30,000.....	\$60,000



ELMWOOD HEIGHTS
SPECIALIZED CARE FACILITY

Adaptive Swing Set with Wheel Chair Swing.....	\$8,000
Medical Equipment.....	\$10,000
Positioning Slings 40@ \$275.....	\$11,000
Replacement Entrance Doors - 6 @ \$3,500.....	\$21,500
Sensory Equipment - 6 Homes @ \$5,000.....	\$30,000
Patio Door Replacements For Homes.....	\$40,000
Bedroom/Bathroom Remodels & Upgrades - 6 Homes@ \$10,000.....	\$60,000
Replacement Carpet - 2 Homes.....	\$20,000
EZ Lifts - 5 @ \$8,000.....	\$40,000
EZ Lift Replacement Batteries - 10 @ \$100.....	\$1,000
Replacement Windows - 6 Homes @ \$15,000.....	\$80,000

ELMWOOD EAST

Replacement Windows for Home.....	\$20,000
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MILESTONE DENTAL CLINIC

Parking Lot Repair and Repaving.....	\$40,000
Replace Carpeting/Flooring.....	\$9,000
Ultrasonic Surgical Equipment.....	\$7,000

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

Amber Mosley	April
Devian Zackery	May
Sara Ostgarden	May
Robin Fant	May

20 years

Taqueria Brown	June
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25 years

Charu Chitale-Menon	April
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30 years

Jacqueline Lamagelaine	April
Shannin Meyer	May

4060 McFarland Road
Rockford, IL 61111

Address Service Requested

 **MILESTONE MATTERS** SUMMER 2021 

EXPANDING OUTREACH

MILESTONE’s HR department is constantly exploring new ways to reach potential employees. Recently a drive through job fair was held in the parking lot of the MILESTONE Dental Clinic. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member of the MILESTONE family. Please call our Human Resources Department at 815-639-2849.





WE'RE HIRING!

<p>Direct Service Providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Time and Part Time available • All three shifts available 	<p>Registered Nurse/Licensed Practical Nurse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Time available • Sign on bonus! • Starting wage contingent with years of service
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Benefits include: Personal Leave, Vacation, Medical, Dental/Vision, Life Insurance, 401k, tuition reimbursement, etc!

<p>Apply online at: jobsatmilestone.com</p>	<p>Questions? Call Human Resources at 815-639-2849 or e-mail at hr@milestone-inc.org</p>
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