

OUT & ABOUT

January 2019

OPPORTUNITY
HOUSE

empowering people with developmental disabilities



Level III Learning for Life Graduates!

Opportunity House, Inc., in partnership with Kishwaukee College, celebrated a milestone at the 2018 Learning for Life Commencement ceremony on Monday, November 5, 2018 at Jenkin's Auditorium on the college's campus. For the first time ever, the celebration included graduates from all three levels of the Learning for Life program and to make this event even more special, the first Level III graduates were also part of the very first Learning for Life graduation class back in 2011.



Pictured above are Level III graduates: Christopher Guild, Jennifer Hott and David Roberts who have taken classes continuously since the program's inception in 2009.

Awards were presented to all three levels; framed certificates for Level I graduates, a personalized medal for Level II graduates and an inscribed wooden plaque for those graduating from Level III. All awards were presented by Robert Shipman, Executive Director of Opportunity House, Inc., Dr. Laurie Borowicz, President of Kishwaukee College and Carla Raynor, Developer and Instructor of the Learning for Life program. Over the life of the program, there have been 52 Level I graduates; 20 Level II graduates and three Level III graduates.



Level II Graduates: Spring Bellows, Samantha Briggs, Sheila Buchholz, Sarah Bullmer, Mark Clausen, Edward Fabris, Brianne Mays, Jason Meyers, Lisa Steinbis and Mary Titus

It takes an average of two years for students to complete any of the levels in the Learning for Life Program. Students must select a community service project or a volunteer opportunity to complete their last Learning for Life level.

Through the support of the OH staff and Learning for Life instructor, students gain self-confidence, self-esteem, improved social skills and demonstrate an increased ability to attend to tasks, as well as gaining knowledge on a wide range of topics.

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Level I Graduates: Sarah Carlson, Wendy Follman, Paul Larson, Consuelo Ordonez, Michael Reding, Sharon Schramer and Miguel Skelley

Thank you to our Supporters!

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Tributes

In Honor of Samantha Briggs
 April Briggs

In Honor of Marjory DeSandre
 Henry & Peggy DeSandre

In Honor of Jim Dombek
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Family Matters

In Honor of Claire Petit
Dan & Jennifer Sweetman
Richard & Barbara Sweetman

In Honor of Connie Pickwell
Lane & Joyce Pickwell

In Honor of David Roberts
Gregory & Mary Luan Olson

In Honor of Stacy Rummel
Cheryl Ross

Memorials

In Memory of Larry French
Jerry & Irene Bird

In Memory of Dr. Chris Hedberg
Janet Hedberg

In Memory of Linda Heinisch
Ray Heinisch

In Memory of Roger & Ron Hoffman
Renee & Keith Krabbe

In Memory of Roger Hoffman
Brian & Deanna Bazan
Tom & Louise Hoffman
Rachel Ammann

In Memory of Marcia Jordal
Karen DiFiore

In Memory of Paul Mullis
Betty Mullis

In Memory of Chris Nesvig
Jack & Ellen Cress

In Memory of Barbara Parsons
Jerry & Irene Bird

In Memory of Katherine Reding
Jack Reding

In Memory of Harry Theisen
Standard Roofing

In Memory of Eric Venetucci
Lawrence Nolan

Capital Campaign

Tim Conklin
DeKalb County Community Foundation
Doug & Lynn Roberts Family Foundation

Nancy Hedberg purchased a recliner for the Day Program

First Midwest Bank
George & Betty Dutton Foundation
Ray Hott
Sycamore Charities

Upcoming Events

13th Annual District Charity Volleyball Event
Sycamore High School Fieldhouse
Friday, February 15 @ 5 pm

Art Show
357 N California Street
Wednesday, February 27
4pm - 6pm

Institute Day
Day Programs Closed
Friday, March 22

Band Together
Blumen Gardens, Sycamore
Featuring Back Country Roads
Friday, April 26 from 6pm - 9pm

Contribute



Celebrating the Holidays!



Jenny, Meghan, Angela & Rick having hot chocolate and enjoying each others company.



The Klein family gave each guest a gift card at the holiday party this year. Pictured above is Dan Klein presenting Diane with her gift. Thank you to the Klein family for your generosity and making the holiday party even more special!

**We wish you a
Happy New Year!**