

# OPPORTUNITY HOUSE



empowering people with developmental disabilities

June 2019

## Band Together for Opportunity House Athletics a Success!



Athletes of the Year, Claire Petit and Michael Castritsis, honored at Band Together.



Friends, Monica and Sarah, enjoy Back Country Roads.

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual “Band Together” for Opportunity House Athletics Special Olympics program was another big success. Our event drew over 175 Opportunity House Athletics supporters. With your help, Opportunity House raised \$16,947 for our Special Olympics athletes. Your generosity is making it possible for our Special Olympians to continue their involvement in athletics that promote sportsmanship, teamwork, and friendship. A big “thank you” to all the individuals and local businesses who donated to the success of our event.

[Visit our website](#)

## CARF International

On March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>,  
Opportunity House surveyors

from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) reviewed our Vocational Services program and other aspects of the organization including: Leadership, Strategic Planning, Financial Planning and Management, Risk Management, Health and Safety, Workforce Development, Technology, Rights of Persons Served, Accessibility, Performance Measurement and Management, Performance Improvement, Employment Services, Individual-Centered Service Planning, Design and Delivery, and Medication Monitoring and Management.



As a result, we achieved a 3-year accreditation. The outcome is the highest level of accreditation and is given to those organizations which meet internationally recognized standards of best practice. Accreditation reflects our commitment to quality and focus on improving and diversifying the services we offer.

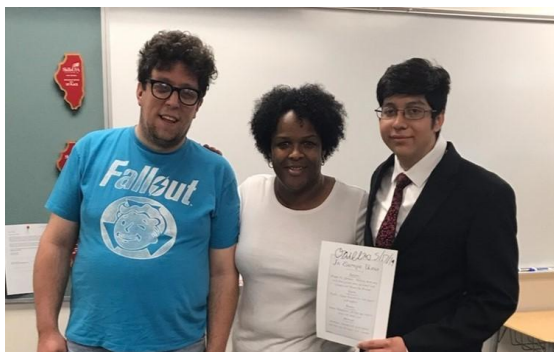
The CARF Survey Outcome Report states, “The leadership team and personnel demonstrate a commitment to the mission of Opportunity House and effectively support the organization’s scope and diversity. Numerous staff members with tenure function as a very cohesive cadre. Their exceptional enthusiasm permeates the organization”.

We are extremely proud of our staff for this achievement. Their care and dedication to the individuals we serve, their hard work and commitment is what makes Opportunity House an asset to our community.

**Every dollar makes a difference! [Click here to donate today.](#)**

## Community Supports Program

On May 17, Christopher Guild and Wanda Tatum from Opportunity House CSP Department attended the Final Project for Kishwaukee Education Consortium Culinary Arts II. Student Osiel Hernandez and his team prepared a three course meal based on German, Spanish and French Cuisine. They were treated like royalty and got to taste different flavors from various countries in Europe.



Osiel presents a signed copy of his menu

## Development Training Program

Peggy Doty, from the University of Illinois Extension program, presented a workshop about animals in the DT program. Thank you Peggy for a great presentation!



Kenny looks at beaver pelt.



[Click here to give today!](#)

## Employee Spotlight Janet Gibson Celebrates 20 Years!



Thank you Janet your years of service to Opportunity House! Janet has been the Food Service Director at the CLF for 20 years. She goes above and beyond for those she serves, and they consider her part of the family. Thank you Janet!

## Nurses Week was May 6-12



Nurse's week is a time for everyone – individuals, employers, other health care professionals, community leaders, and nurses – to recognize the infinite contributions and the positive impacts of registered nurses. Please help us celebrate and take time out to thank our nurses!

## The Recreation Department held it's annual Spring Formal Dance in May



Above, Monica and Mary at the Spring Formal Dance.



Paper nursing hats were made in honor of all nurses.

# Thank you to Our Donors

3M

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Kristen Vaughan  
Margaret Vitkus  
Paula Von Ende  
Marcia Watson  
Janet Winters

## Family Matters

Ken and Kathy Spears donated a swing to the Alden home. (Pictured left)

Paula Howlett donated two new pair of shoes.

# Capital Campaign

James & Kathryn Dombek  
Tom Matya



[Visit our website](#)

## Opportunity House Athletics Teams up with Students from NIU

The National Intramural and Recreation Sports Association (NIRSA) hosted a soccer tournament on April 13th. NIU students and Opportunity House Athletics joined forces to play as the NIU Unified team. They took first place in the Unified Division Spring Soccer Championship that was held at the University of Illinois campus.



This was the first time Opportunity House and NIU Recreation and Wellness joined forces for this tournament, and it was a winning combination! Congratulations to the NIU Unified team.

## Upcoming Events

### July 4th Holiday

*Opportunity House Closed*  
Thursday, July 4, 2019  
Friday, July 5, 2019

### Chip into Charity

Friday, August 9, 2019

### Labor Day

*Opportunity House Closed*  
Monday, September 2, 2019

### Institute Day

*Day Programs Closed*  
Friday, September 20, 2019

## Remember Opportunity House in your Estate Planning!

Planned giving enables an individual to make a charitable gift of estate assets to an organization of their choice during their lifetime or through a will or testament. Consider making a gift to Opportunity House. Please contact Jackie Espy at 815.895.5108 x130

You make a difference in the lives of others

# Sponsors

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Mail donations to:  
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