

# OPPORTUNITY HOUSE

## Annual Report

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025



## MISSION

To help people with developmental disabilities work, live in homes of their choice, and enjoy community life

## VISION

That the individuals we serve and our employees always feel valued, appreciated, safe, & respected both at work and throughout our communities

## VALUES



### Integrity

Being fair, honest, and trustworthy



### Compassion

Showing concern, care, understanding, and empathy



### Accountability

Sharing responsibility for meeting the needs of the people we serve



### Resourcefulness

Being creative and innovative in meeting individuals' needs



### Excellence

Upholding the highest standards in what we do and continually seeking ways to improve

# A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Partners,

As we reflect on Fiscal Year 2025, we celebrate a year of continued growth, expansion of services and planning for what the future will bring. We are honored to have loyal and new contributor's; our success would not be possible without your support. The same can be said of the multiple organizations that we partner with to provide the best services possible for the 180 individuals served this past year.

Over the last three years, we have focused on upgrading our community residential homes. In summary, we have sold two of our older homes, purchased three additional homes in Sycamore, and built two new homes in Genoa. We moved into one of the Genoa homes this past year and soon will be opening the second one. Providing safe, community-integrated homes that our individuals choose to live in is our mission.

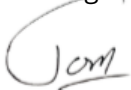
Donor support is extremely important in allowing Opportunity House to provide services to individuals who do not receive State funding. Of the individuals we serve, 27% do not receive State funding. Your generosity allows unfunded individuals to receive services in our Day Program, Community Support, Recreation, and Athletics. *THANK YOU!*

We are proud of how we rate in satisfaction surveys; Employer partners report 100% satisfaction with job performance, and overall client and guardian satisfaction is strong at 95%. This success is due to excellent care provided by frontline employees: Direct Support Professionals, House Managers, Case Managers, Medical Appointment staff, and Nursing. As we support our frontline staff, we welcomed new leaders in Finance, Human Resources, Residential, and Development, ensuring strong guidance for the road ahead. Every day I am grateful for the special work our 145 employees provide 365 days a year.

As we look to the future, Opportunity House will continue to be innovative in how we deliver our essential services. The passage of the Dignity in Pay Act marks a new era for inclusive employment that will significantly change work services going forward. Stay tuned, soon we will be announcing future plans.

Thank you again for your interest, partnership, and generous support of Opportunity House. To learn more about us, please check out our website, [www.ohinc.org](http://www.ohinc.org), or contact us directly.

Best regards,



Tom Matya  
Executive Director

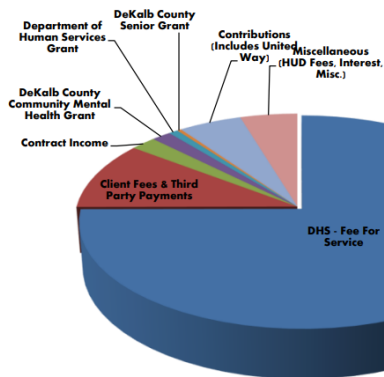


## ORGANIZATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Implemented a new payroll system.
- Completed security system installation at main facility.
- Completed 95% of objectives in FY23-FY25 Strategic Plan.
- Rolled out our Strategic Plan for FY26-FY28.
- Completed Leadership development for 21 employees.
- Increased fundraising from \$411,000 to \$504,000.
- In negotiations for an 8-bedroom accessible home (late summer 2025).



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

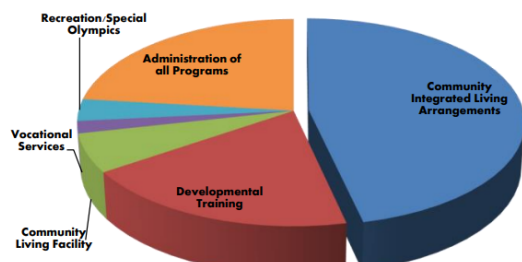


## Revenue

|                                             |             |       |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| DHS - Fee For Service                       | \$7,280,677 | 74.9% |
| Client Fees & Third Party Payments          | \$1,007,093 | 10.4% |
| Contract Income                             | \$204,480   | 2.1%  |
| DeKalb County Community Mental Health Grant | \$155,804   | 1.6%  |
| Department of Human Services Grant          | \$74,687    | 0.8%  |
| DeKalb County Senior Grant                  | \$33,000    | 0.3%  |
| Contributions (Includes United Way)         | \$504,063   | 5.2%  |
| Miscellaneous (HUD Fees, Interest, Misc.)   | \$454,779   | 4.7%  |

## Total Revenue

**\$9,714,583**



## Expenses

|                                          |             |       |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| Community Integrated Living Arrangements | \$4,425,304 | 46.5% |
| Developmental Training                   | \$1,807,674 | 19.0% |
| Community Living Facility                | \$573,721   | 6.0%  |
| Vocational Services                      | \$181,137   | 1.9%  |
| Recreation/Special Olympics              | \$325,476   | 3.4%  |
| Administration of all Programs           | \$2,204,477 | 23.2% |

## Total Expenses

**\$9,517,789**



# TOGETHER WE THRIVE! PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS BY CAROL PARSONS, SUPPORTING SERVICES DIRECTOR

Over the decades, many of the individuals we support have walked beside us through life's great joys and its hardest losses. Some joined us as young adults; today, several are 70, 80, or older. Through the years, we have celebrated new friendships, meaningful community employment, and travel adventures. We have also supported them through grief, health changes, loss of loved ones, and uncertain times. These shared experiences remind us that this work is more than a service, it is a human journey, grounded in dignity, respect, and care.

Join us in continuing this journey. Your support allows us to walk beside those we serve through every joy, challenge, and milestone.

These are the program highlights:

## Residential

- This year marked the successful opening of a new home in Genoa, with preparations underway for a second location anticipated before year-end.

## OH Industries

- Expansion of volunteer and group employment hours
- Over 24,000 hours of paid work for clients
- 2 new group employment locations

## Vocational Services

- 100% of individuals were satisfied with their employment services.
- 100% of employers surveyed rated clients as "meets" or "exceeds" their job performance expectations.
- New businesses that supported inclusive hiring this year: DeKalb United Methodist Church, ABC Preschool, Portillos, Charley's Cheesesteaks, and Michaels.

## Community Supports

- Supported 11 individuals in their own apartment and 6 individuals residing with family.
- Provided transitions planning for older individuals who are need of future 24-hour support.

## Home Based Services

- 100% of individuals and their families or guardians surveyed were satisfied with supports provided.

## Recreation

- A total of 229 activities were offered, resulting in 2,147 engagement opportunities for our individuals.

## Community Day Services

- Initiated plans with an architect for redesigning our Community Days Services and OH Industry areas.
- Individuals have increased community access through recreation and volunteer opportunities (8,000 hours).
- Meta Grant recipients - With this grant funding we were able to increase client access to technology and built partnership with the Burpee Museum.
- Successful Art Show and reception held at Blumen Gardens.

## Special Olympics

- Started Unified Bags as a new sport in October 2024.
- Increased number of volunteer coaches and Unified Partners to 27 individuals in FY25.

# Turning Your Generosity Into Action

Through 299 activities offered this year, the Recreation program provided 2,147 opportunities for engagement and connection.



In our Learning for Life Program, participants had the opportunity to continue their education with hands-on learning, fit for each individual, resulting in a graduation ceremony to receive a certificate for their achievements.

In our OH Athletics Program, we had 65 athletes, and 20 unified partners competed in 48 total games/tournaments in FY25.



OH's Music therapy sessions are led by a licensed music therapist. Each session fosters emotional expression, enhances communication skills, and promotes social interaction.



Our CDS program officially started an outreach program with Burpee museum of Natural History!



## THANK YOU SPONSORS

OPPORTUNITY HOUSE

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### OFFICERS

Landon Faivre, Chair  
Nicole Fisch, Vice Chair  
Lorna Bemis, Secretary  
Maura O'Toole, Treasurer

#### MEMBERS

Jennifer Darlinger  
Heather Edwards  
Kyle Gerdes  
Jeanne Isabel  
Monteil Johnson  
Sushil Keswani  
Timothy Lehan  
Tait Lundgren  
Karen Simmons  
Dave Schafer  
Tom Weaver

#### AFFILIATIONS & ACCREDITATIONS

- Illinois Department of Human Services
- Illinois Department of Public Health
- Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities
- Illinois Department of Labor
- Association of People Supporting Employment First
- DeKalb County Economic Development Corp
- Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities
- Maple Park Supports Special Olympics Athletes



Kishwaukee United Way



### Connect with Us!

Opportunity House, Inc

opportunity.house

Opportunity House, Inc

