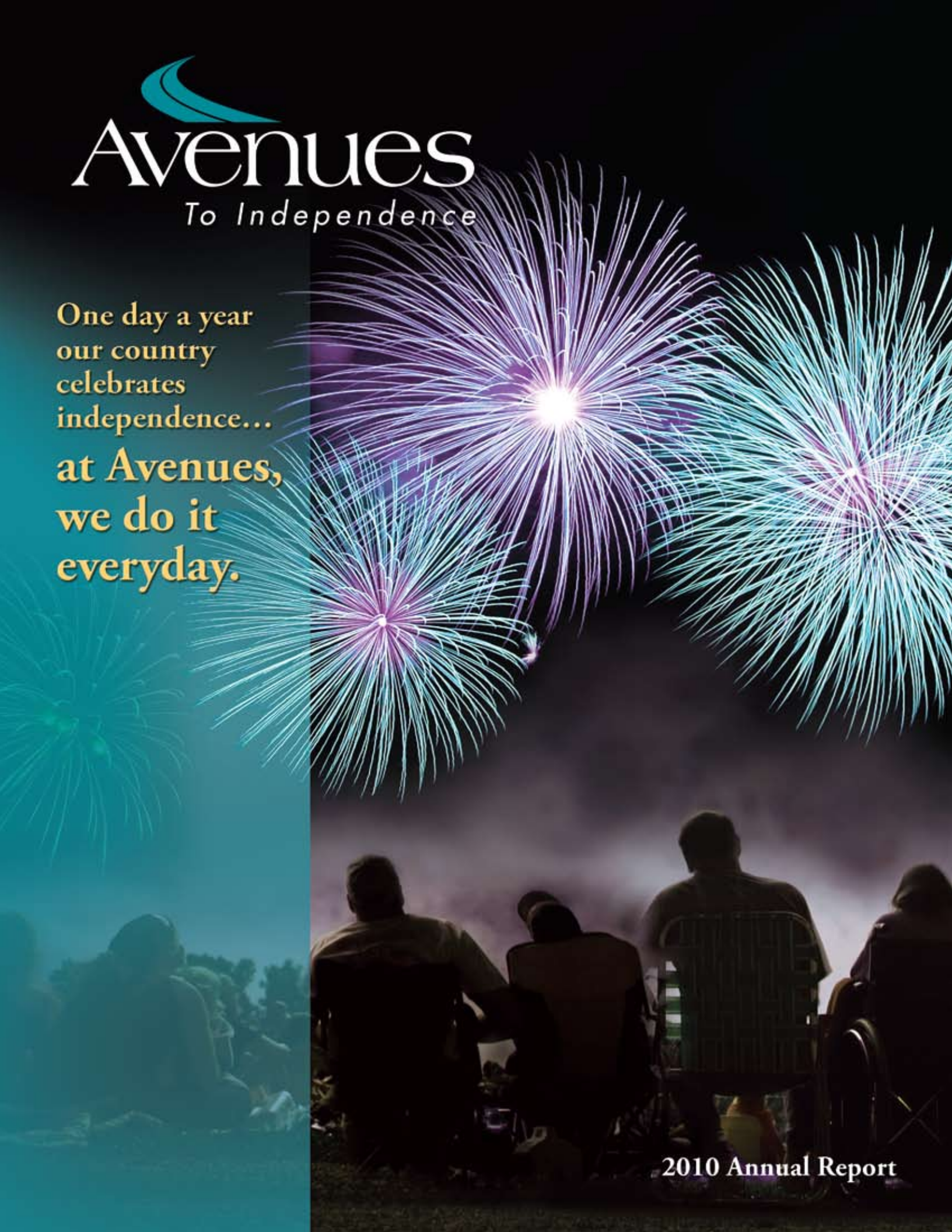




Avenues

To Independence

One day a year
our country
celebrates
independence...
at Avenues,
we do it
everyday.



2010 Annual Report

Message from the Directors

Dear Friends of Avenues,

Welcome to the **2010 Avenues Annual Report**. Each year, we celebrate the independence achieved by the many individuals with autism, cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome and other intellectual, physical and developmental disabilities supported by Avenues to Independence. Your generosity and support is what makes all of this possible.

In 2010, the financial woes of the State of Illinois continue to present many challenges to the goal of independence at Avenues. Illinois is at an all time high in its delay of payments and state funding for programs continues to decline. Statewide, 5,000 individuals are projected to lose funding for all or a portion of their needed support services.


Our state's shortcomings will directly affect individuals at Avenues. We expect to keep essential services in place so that no one will be put on the street. New and additional resources are being developed in order to maintain programs for the 220+ individuals who look to us each day for support.

Our ability to sustain these important programs is only possible through your concern and support of Avenues. We will ride out Illinois' financial storm because the people of Avenues need us to do so. Together, we will do what is necessary to maintain independence for those individuals whom we serve. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Robert Okazaki
Executive Director



Jacqueline Kimel
*Chairperson
Avenues Board of Directors*



Jacqueline Kimel

Robert Okazaki

Avenues to Independence is dedicated to putting aside old ideas about what is possible.

We work in partnership with the community to support and encourage people with disabilities to lead the lives they choose. We have a lifelong commitment to the people we serve and our success will eventually be measured by how little we are needed.

One day a year, our country celebrates independence *at Avenues, we do it everyday.*

For nearly 57 years, we've created opportunities and supported adults with developmental disabilities to live as independently as they choose.

Their individual challenges - whether autism, cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome and other intellectual, physical and developmental disabilities – are life-long, and so is our commitment to serve them.

At Avenues, it's a promise we keep everyday.

Even though the state of Illinois owes us \$1.4 million (through May, 2010) for services we have already provided, we have continued to make a difference in the lives of the nearly 250 people we serve. Faced with these deep cuts, our stringent operating controls and strong foresight have enabled Avenues' staff and Board of Directors to maintain all of our existing programs.

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, and the passionate commitment from parents, families, friends, and volunteers, this year we continued to provide ways our program participants celebrate their independence:

- Funding to our transportation initiative enabled 100 workers to get to their jobs everyday, and provided for the purchase of two additional passenger vans
- Much needed upgrades and maintenance work was completed at some of our residential facilities
- Our workcenter in Wheeling provided packaging and light assembly jobs for more than 160 workers, and more than 60 employees work in the private sector through our Job Placement Program
- Participants enjoyed social events with their peers, including trips to baseball games and theatre performances, as well as movie nights, a summer BBQ, and dances



Celebrating Independence

1) According to her workshop supervisors, **Georgia Tomaras** thrives when given her work assignments, and her productivity is a real asset to the others in her group.

2) Independence, according to resident and worker **Ed Derrickson**, means doing his own laundry, cleaning and shopping, and the ability to save money for a trip with friends.

3) One job is not enough for **Nipa Desai**, who says her job for the last six years at Barnaby's Pizza in Des Plaines is "great" and she "loves the people," and the days she's not at Barnaby's, Nipa works at Avenues' Wheeling Workcenter.

4) **Allen Daniel** had no place to go when he finished high school. Now at Avenues' Work Center, he's learning valuable job skills.

5) At Avenues' Thrift Shoppe, **John Kelly** helps promote resale merchandise as he challenges customers to "make me an offer." Mentored by Thrift Shoppe Manager **Michael Frustini**, John rings up an average of \$250 to \$300 a day in sales for Avenues, and is learning that "nothing is impossible because I'm possible."

6) **Gary Zimmer** can't always communicate with us verbally, but he sure lets everyone know he's willing to try any job – and never gives up until it's done.

7) To **Cheryl Hager**, independence is being able to get an hourly wage for the work she does, shown here with one of the 16,000 Pickwick Tea units packaged annually at the Wheeling workcenter. Cheryl looks forward to her paycheck so she can visit friends and see a movie every Saturday.

8) The strength of Culver's Restaurants is due to "the goodness of our people," according to CEO **Craig Culver** (left). Employee **Jeffrey Jones** is one of those people, and celebrates at the grand opening of Culver's in Rosemont, IL. Joining Jeffrey (shown waving) are Culver's owners **Chuck and Linnaea Martin**, and Avenues' VP of Development **Ann Marie Ehrlich** (right).

Celebrating Independence Through Work...



Every Day of the Year

Through Home Life...



and Through Passions...

9) Entrepreneur **Lenore Sierzega** turned her sewing talent into a way to make extra money repairing and making garments for friends and staff of Avenues.

10) Resident **Karen Finnestad** loves the freedom of being in an apartment, and the fact she doesn't have to ask staff permission to go for the many walks she enjoys.

11) **Denise Hacke** expresses her creativity painting a self-portrait at an Avenues' art class. Denise loves to paint, and particularly likes working with pastels.

12) The workcenter also promotes lasting friendships, as good friends **Phoebe Redmond** and **Shannon Machnica** share a good time.

13) **Jeffrey Romano** has frequently written to our state congressmen to voice his concern about funding cuts.

14) **Barb Williams** has enjoyed a special bond with **Jessica Kerr**, daughter of **Cathy Kerr**, VP of Programs, ever since Jessica was a small child and they would play catch together for hours at a time at the workcenter. They don't play ball anymore, but their friendship has remained very close.

15) **David Roma**, Avenues participant and son of Board Member **Annette Roma**, first met volunteer and Suburban Partnership Board Member **Joyce Christensen** over 35 years ago when David attended school in Park Ridge and he became one of her "favorite students." Today, they maintain their friendship through Avenues.

16) **Ed and Dr. Bonnie Reinhart** (standing) celebrate Thanksgiving with **Ed Greenberg** and **Stephanie Kegermann**. Bonnie, a member of our Suburban Partnership Board, says, "spending the holidays with Ed and Stephanie was a wonderful time, and they are like part of our extended family. Their visit did more for us than we did for them."

17) Volunteer and Board Member **Greg Simmons** finds the desire to provide increased independence and improved quality of life for Avenues' individuals a rewarding obligation to society. Greg received the 2009 Jordan A. Minerva Professional Volunteer of the Year Award. He is pictured with **Karen Weidell**, recipient of the 2009 Volunteer of the Year Award, who has been a long time volunteer at Avenues Thrift Shoppe.

18) **Jolene Wise Silverman**, President of the Chicago Partnership Board, hopes her efforts can help make someone's day brighter and provide the means to foster their independence. Jolene recently treated several women to manicures and is shown here giving nail polish to **Connie Koshaba**, while **Mary Feight** and behind her, **Nadine Henich** looks on.

The Numbers Tell the Story



43 out of 51

Illinois' rank nationwide (including the District of Columbia) in per capita funding for community residential developmental disability programs.**

4.4 Billion Dollars* =

Amount Illinois has **underfunded** important Human Services program in the past 8 years



*by an average of 143 participants at our Wheeling workcenter in 2009 producing jobs for 60 customers

200,000 individuals

in Illinois have developmental disabilities

90%

Unemployment rate

for persons with an intellectual or cognitive disability



Annual cost of care to house an individual with developmental disabilities:

\$142,533 Illinois State Developmental Center ***

\$53,291 Community Care Average

\$30,000 Avenues to Independence Average

Avenues can support nearly 5 people for the cost of a single person in an Illinois State facility

THE AVENUES FAMILY...

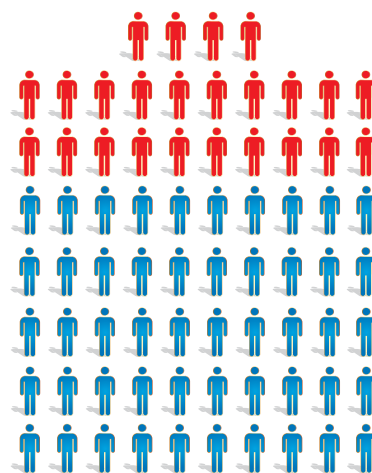


24 out of 74

Avenues' life-long residents

ARE LOSING 100%

of their state funding for programs.



We've been delivering on our promise to the people we serve for 57 years.

The Future

Clearly, we're faced with some difficult challenges. But by working with our wonderful support community and donors, we will continue to deliver on our promise of a lifelong commitment to the people we serve.

To that end, these are just a few of the pro-active steps we are taking to meet these challenges

- **Our Board of Directors is developing a comprehensive strategic plan for the future**
- **We are increasing the number of Avenues' volunteers who can support our programs and participants**
- **We have streamlined operations to eliminate positions without layoffs, while maintaining the all-important direct care staff**
- **We are educating government and legislative officials on the critical need to support programs for adults with developmental disabilities**

Every day we remember that promise, and every day we work to deliver it because at Avenues, we celebrate independence every day of the year.

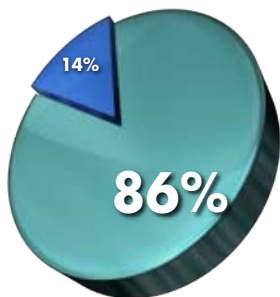
Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2009

ASSETS	
Current Assets	1,899,708
Land, Buildings and Equipment (book value)	1,955,275
Interment Sites	10,000
Other Assets	4,393
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,869,376
<hr/>	
LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities	361,276
Long-Term Liabilities	518,592
Total Liabilities	879,868
Beginning Net Assets	2,542,841
Change in Net Assets	446,667
Ending Net Assets	2,989,508
TOTAL LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS	\$3,869,376
<hr/>	
STATEMENT of ACTIVITY (Condensed) for the 12 Months Ended June 30, 2009	
REVENUES	
Government	3,049,812
Thrift Shop Sales, Job and Service Contracts	456,774
Contributions and Special Events (includes \$1,253,899 from Avenues' Foundation)	1,573,167
Program Fees	678,170
United Way and Park Ridge Community Chest	45,505
Miscellaneous Revenue	3,012
Interest Income	1,752
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	(4,415)
TOTAL REVENUES	\$5,803,777
<hr/>	
EXPENDITURES	
Staff Costs: Direct Care (Program)	3,079,994
Management & General	295,052
Fund Raising	256,943
Total Personnel Costs	3,631,989
Professional Fees & Contract Service	342,827
Occupancy	492,386
Client Pay	120,802
Transportation	166,456
Supplies	131,669
Small Equipment Purchases, Equip. Maintenance, Equip. Rental, and interest on Equip. Purchase	37,492
Contribution to Affiliate (Prospect HUD Project)	130,818
Other	117,385
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,171,824
DEPRECIATION	\$185,286
TOTAL EXPENSES WITH DEPRECIATION	\$5,357,110
TOTAL CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$446,667

Statement of Financial Position

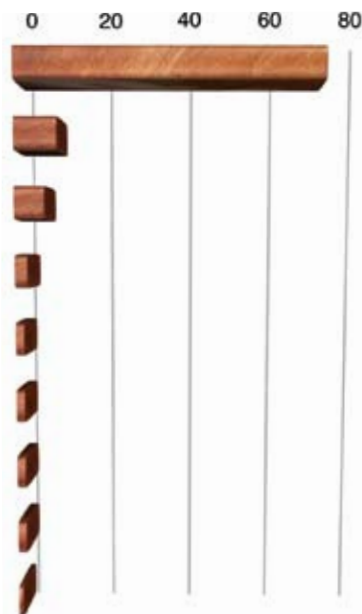
Expenses



86% = Program Related Expenses

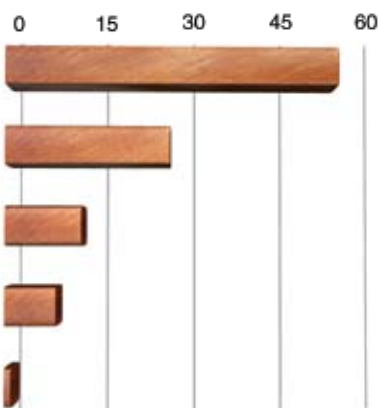
14% = Administrative and Funding Expenses

Staff Costs	\$3,631,989	71%
Occupancy	\$492,386	10%
Professional Fees & Contract Service	\$342,827	7%
Transportation	\$166,456	3%
Client Pay	\$120,802	2%
Supplies	\$131,669	2%
Contribution to Affiliate (Prospect HUD Project)	\$130,818	2%
Other	\$117,385	2%
Small Equipment Purchases, Equipment Maintenance, Equipment Rental, and interest on Equipment Purchase	\$37,492	1%



Revenues

Government	\$3,049,812	53%
Contributions and Special Events (includes \$1,253,899 from Avenues' Foundation)	\$1,573,167	26%
Program Fees	\$678,170	12%
Thrift Shoppe Sales, Job and Service Contracts	\$456,774	8%
Park Ridge Community Fund and other	\$45,505	1%



Lester and Evelyn Anderson
Irene Balogh
Allan and Lorie Bartel
Richard and Lori Brayer

Norma Louise Bronoski
Robert and Joyce Christensen
Edward and Donna Dernulc
Sally Derrickson
Richard Dohnke
Dennis and Patricia DuBoux
Howard and Susan Ebner
Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
William and Vivien Gorman
Robert Healy and Peg O'Herron
Clarence Herbst
Graham Hills

Linda Hills
Jim and Anita Hornbrook
Robert and Cathy Kerr
Shelly and Jacqueline Kimel
Floyd Kortenhof
Martin and Erna Kurschner
Eli and Marcia Lawrence
Laura Miles Lockwood
Lillian Martiny
Kevin* and Alice Murphy
H. Terrence O'Brien
Jack and Christel Owens

Konrad and Melita Parker*
William and Mildred Powell
Michael and Mary Prindiville
Maria Rawski
Fred and Pam Sasser
Sheila Schultz
Joel and Michele Shoolin
Lorraine Shouldis
Marianne Tamura
Daniel Watts
Catherine, James and Rita Whalen
Jane* and Albert Wohlers

**We will greatly miss the friends of Avenues who passed away this year.*

Memorials and Honorariums

In memory of James and Josephine Anzalone
Anthony and Yvonne Anzalone

In memory of James, Joe, Frank and Ross Anzalone
Anthony and Yvonne Anzalone

In memory of Alan Anixer
Joel and Michele Shoolin

In memory of John Bagel
Melvin and Lucy Erickson

In memory of Harold, Wanda, Brian and Linda Braner
Marvin and Gail Boehm

In memory of Ruth Clarke
Joel and Michele Shoolin

In memory of Donald Collins, Jr.
Sharon Tause

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Conway's 50th Anniversary
Joe and Cathy DePrizio

In honor of Wally Cwik's 70th Birthday
Mike and Mary Prindiville

In memory of Dawn Dace
Donald and Jacqueline Walsh

In honor of Ed and Donna Dernulc
James and Dorothy Lynch

In memory of Rose Ehrlich
*Michael and Susan Bettenhausen
William and Bernice Bruton
Warren and Leona Childs
Bob and Joyce Christensen
Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Sean and Barbara Ehrlich
Jerry and Sue Feldman
Lorraine Griffin
Pat Grimes
Sandra Henich
Gloria Hughes
Robert and Catherine Kerr
Sheldon and Jacqueline Kimel
Floyd Korten Hof
Ralph and Peggy Levato
Ann Maroney
Patricia Maroney & Joseph Kogut
Roger and Delores Murbach*

*Robert and Judy Okazaki
Mike and Mary Prindiville
Ron and Dottie Reeves
Friends at Rosemont Catering
Joel and Michele Shoolin
Anne Stewart
Frank and Mary Ward*

In memory of Orville Eness
*Carl Adrianopoli
Everett and Olive Benson
Rick Chavez
Vergil and Joan Eness
John and Melinda Gorney
Robert Gunther and Liz Casani
Brad Hornash
Alan Johnson
Sheldon and Jacqueline Kimel
Karen McClain
Lyle and Olive Miller
James and Martha Nolan
Millie O'Brien
David and Rheta Paisley
David and Christine Perry
Annette Roma
Brad Snodgrass
Joshua Snodgrass*

In memory of Beverly Joyce Feldman
*Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Mike and Mary Prindiville
Joel and Michele Shoolin*

In memory of Harvey Feldman
*Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Mike and Mary Prindiville
Joel and Michele Shoolin*

In memory of Blace Floris
Anthony and Yvonne Anzalone

In memory of A. Galgano
Melvin and Lucy Erickson

In memory of Gloria Geiger
Fred and Mary Anne Geiger

In memory of Frank Glienna
Mike and Mary Prindiville

In memory of Joyce Gruns
Anthony and Yvonne Anzalone

In honor of Denise Hacke
*Diane Ducey
David and Angela Hacke
William and Marie Schliep*

In honor of Donald and Marlene Hacke
*David and Angela Hacke
Donald Hacke*

In memory of Mary Jo Hank
Mike and Mary Prindiville

In memory of John Hank
Mike and Mary Prindiville

In memory of Pete Henich
Sandra Henich

In memory of Joyce Hill
*Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Sheldon and Jacqueline Kimel
Floyd Korten Hof*

In honor of Jo Hogan's birthday
Joe and Cathy DePrizio

In memory of Irene Hubbell
Melvin and Lucy Erickson

In memory of Elly Johnson
*Warren and Leona Childs
Bob and Joyce Christensen
Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Sheldon and Jacqueline Kimel
Floyd Korten Hof
Robert and Judy Okazaki
Ron and Dottie Reeves
Joel and Michele Shoolin*

In memory of Roy Kautz, Sr.
Fred, Robin and Ashley Schroeder

In memory of Calvin Keyes, Sr.
*Warren and Leona Childs
Bob and Joyce Christensen
Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Ron and Dottie Reeves
Joel and Michele Shoolin*

In honor of Vickie Korey
*Greg and Serena Fried
Marla Richmond
Ralph and Beth Sair
Robert and Cathy Shulkin
Mitchell and Linda Weinstein*

In honor of Scott Kurschner
*Florence Feldman
Seve and Karen Santacruz*

In memory of Nancy Lach
*Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Sheldon and Jacqueline Kimel
Irving and Vickie Korey
Ron and Dottie Reeves
Joel and Michele Shoolin*

In honor of Jill Liska's MBA
*Stacey Birndorf
Joel and Michele Shoolin*

In honor of Jimmie and Clarissa Loper's 50th Anniversary
Irving and Vickie Korey

In memory of Michael Malone
Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich

In memory of Glen Marks
Sandra Henich

In memory of Mary Massa
*Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Sean and Barbara Ehrlich*

In memory of Marjorie Maute
Judith Maute

In honor of Tim Meyer
Denise Eilers

In memory of Jordan Minerva
Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich

In memory of Mary Montalbano
Jeremy and Sheri Roche

In memory of Angeline Mooney
Anthony and Yvonne Anzalone

In memory of Kevin Murphy
*Bob and Joyce Christensen
William and Peter Conrick
Ann Deuel
William and Ann Dodds
Mark and Eleanor Eder
Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Clark Gapen
Bob and Sue Griffin
Mark and Pamela Hamilton
Thomas and Jean Hamilton
Julie Hughes
Mary Jane Joslin
Tom and Kathy Koleski
Floyd Korten Hof
Jeanne Rogers Sainiti
Stuart and Rhonda Salins
Joel and Michele Shoolin
James and Susan Tumpane*

In memory of Francis Napleton
*Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Sean and Barbara Ehrlich*

In memory of Harry O'Brien
*Melvin and Lucy Erickson
Millie O'Brien*

In memory of Francis O'Connor
Mike and Mary Prindiville

Memorials and Honorariums

In memory of Elizabeth Okazaki
William and Jackie Lifton

In memory of Jason Okazaki
William and Jackie Lifton

In honor of Bob Olson
Presbyterian Women

In memory of Donald Peterson
Barbara Peterson

In honor of Nora Prindiville
George and Cecile Pfaff

In memory of Helen Ranum
John and Laurel Romano

In memory of Earl and Evelyn Renquin
Anthony and Yvonne Anzalone

In memory of Henry and Martha Renquin
Anthony and Yvonne Anzalone

In memory of Harold Riegler
Mike and Mary Prindiville

In honor of Annette Roma's birthday
Beverly Ellstrand

In memory of Revelle Rothblott
Sandra Henich

**In honor of Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Sack's
60th Anniversary**
Joel and Michele Shoolin

In memory of Sharon Tawse Sammis
Dennis and Kathy Becker
Russ and Janice Blakely
Doris Burton
Chemco Manufacturing
Peter and Mary Connolly
Northwest Oaks
Bruce and Nancy Payne
Kyle Rose
Michael and Kristal Rose
Barbara Weeks

In memory of Bob and Doris Sasser
Anthony and Yvonne Anzalone

In memory of Carl Schoenberg
Shirley Brown

**In honor of Lyle and Barrie Shinn's
50th Anniversary**
James and Martha Nolan

In honor of Michele Shoolin's birthday
Joel Shoolin

In honor of Jolene Silverman's birthday
Robert and Susan Beard
Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Joel and Michele Shoolin

In memory of Mary Ann Sitterger
Mike and Mary Prindiville

In memory of Lynda Spatz
Sandra Henich

In memory of Sally Sperando
Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich

In honor of Ann Stewart's Birthday
Allan and Ann Marie Ehrlich
Ralph and Peggy Levato

In memory of Leona Weyna
Allison Hastings

In memory of Helen White
Lester and Evelyn Anderson

In memory of Ricky Wolchuk
Helga Albrecht
Leonard and Barbara Altobelli
James and Mary Barrett
Bernard and Dorothy Beverly
William and Alma Jo Crooks
M.P. and Phyllis Heaney
Betty Hickman
Garrett and Barbara Ann Hopkins
Edwin and Rose Marie Majewski
Veronica Malecha
Robert and Lois Meute
Allen and Nancy Range
Patricia Reddington
Kathleen Scaletta
John and Laura Siracusa
Marjorie Smith
Virginia Vogt
Rita Zei

In memory of Walter Zielen
Robert Kawalek

In memory of Ernestine Zimmerman
Mike and Mary Prindiville



We also honor the men and women of Avenues (some are pictured right) who celebrate their independence every day.



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(847) 292-0870
www.avenuestoindependence.org

Work Center

444 Mercantile Court
Wheeling, IL 60090
(847) 541-5250
www.avenuespackaging.com

Avenues Thrift Shoppe

7710 W. Touhy Avenue
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 631-6230



Avenues to Independence is a not-for-profit agency supporting adults with developmental disabilities. Avenues offers a variety of programs which enhance an individual's work, social and daily living skills. It is Avenues' goal to provide work and residential opportunities enabling those with disabilities to be as independent as possible. Avenues does not discriminate services or employment on the basis of race, age, color, sex, ancestry, religion, national origin or handicaps. Avenues is a United Way agency and accredited by CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.)



www.avenuestoindependence.org