



Voices for Independence

“Some of the best memories are made in flip flops.”

2015 Annual Report... Fiscal Summary by Michael Malone, Executive Director

In the realm of nonprofits, annual reports are an important tool to assure the community they are financially responsible and making sound business decisions.

However, the space for the “2015 Annual Report” in this edition of our newsletter is a bit limited this year as I believe it is more important to use this space to showcase the heart of our mission. The heart of our mission will always be predicated on enhancing and enriching the lives of those we deliver services to at our basecamp at 120 South Holland Sylvania Road, through River Crossings day habilitation program, in our respite services, the residents of Penn Road, and through our community adult recreation program.

To assure you that we remain fiscally responsible I have included this graph to show you what 2015 looked like. As a not-for-profit, it is my goal to assure we always have enough revenue to cover our expenses and I think we are very successful with that.

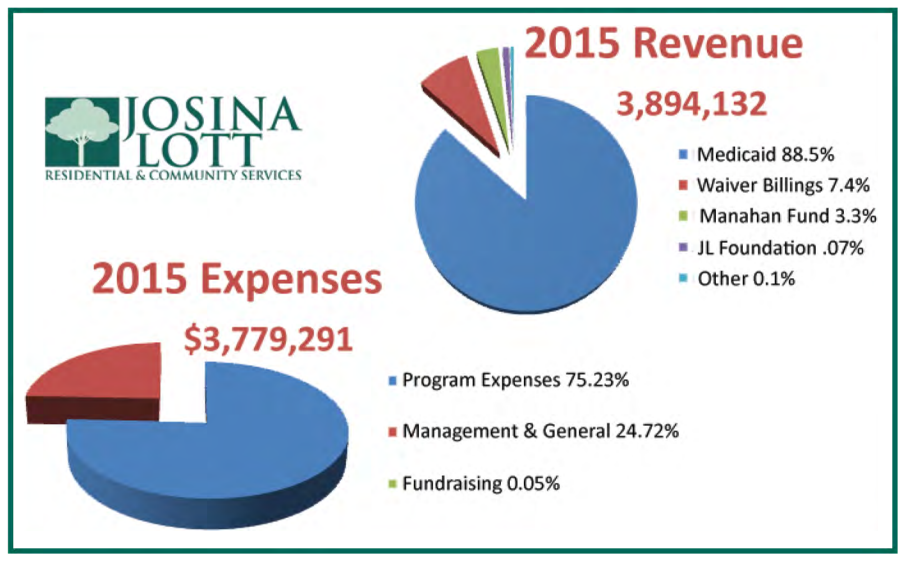


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“Enriching the lives of persons with developmental disabilities by providing quality services, safe environments and opportunities for self-determination and community integration.”



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Toledo Christian, University of Toledo, St. Ursula Academy Service Learning: A Work of Heart

We have forged a treasured partnership with Professor Holly Eichner and the University of Toledo's Recreation Therapy program. You may remember that last year, Professor Eichner and her clinical students facilitated three separate creative arts workshops with residents involving photography, musical therapy, and art. They returned to Josina Lott this past April for another evening of therapeutic art immersion, this time with a focus on sensory stimulation and socialization.



Professor Holly Eichner (back) and her UT Rec Therapy students immersed residents in textures and colors.

Residents enjoyed texturizing and coloring Easter eggs and creating their own liquid sensory bottles by combining their choice of food coloring, oil(s), and water. In turn, students in Professor Eichner's Recreation Therapy curriculum gained a valuable service learning experience working independently with residents.

It is with great sadness that Josina Lott said goodbye to beloved resident and friend; Shanna Theil passed away unexpectedly on Friday, April 8th, 2016.

Shanna leaves behind a large immediate family, her family and friends here at Josina Lott, as well as her Kroger family, where she proudly worked for over 15 years.

Shanna dreamed of being a teacher's assistant for educators working with the disabled and in many ways made that dream happen through her work as a member of



For the 10th year in a row, St. Ursula Academy students served a 'Day of Caring' with residents at River Crossings.

A special thank you to Professor Holly Eichner and University of Toledo volunteer students Allison Parton, Kenya Dolin, Mark Koltz, Elena Yeager, Michelle Fager, Ashley Manucci, and Audrey Rieger for joining us on campus and enriching the lives of those we serve!

Local High School Students Celebrate 'Day of Caring' at Josina Lott

In what has become an annual early spring tradition, students from St. Ursula Academy joined us at River Crossings for a day of landscaping and grounds beautification.

It was the 10th consecutive year for St. Ursula Academy's 'Day of Caring' where over 600 students (grades 6-12), faculty, staff and parents travel to 35 local non-profits and service agencies to volunteer

their time and talents. This year we were pleased to welcome 10 students and two staffers to River Crossings where we mulched, planted flowers, and engaged the individuals in games and activities.

It is the kick off to spring that we look forward to every year! For making the day so special for us we would like to thank St. Ursula Academy students Sarah, Michaela, Brooke, Maddie, Sidney, Regan, Kate, Lauren, Mikala, and Rebecca and staffers Mary and John.

And a special thanks to students from Toledo Christian for volunteering their time to support our residents participating in the packet stuffing for the Glass City Marathon. We sincerely hope the students enjoyed their time on the campus of Josina Lott as much as we enjoyed having them!



Toledo Christian students volunteer at Josina Lott as part of the TCares Community Outreach Program.



People First of Northwest Ohio. People First is a statewide organization manned exclusively by self-advocates who seek to promote equality and self-determination rights for people with disabilities so they can live the life they want in their community. Shanna was a role model for self-advocacy, encouraging friends, peers and fellow People First members to understand their individual rights and speak up for themselves.

Shanna is dearly missed; rest in peace friend.

Mercy Health Glass City Marathon and the 2016 Josina Lott Jog & Jaunt 5k/10k; A Busy Spring for Inclusive Miles Running Team



Josina Lott residents, staff, and volunteers manned the water stop at the 17 mile mark of the marathon.

The sun smiled brightly from a bright blue canvas on us along the 17 mile mark of the April 24th, 2016 Mercy Health Glass City Marathon. It was a beautiful race day morning with temperatures ranging between 40 – 50 degrees for the at the start of the race. In fact, more than one marathoner was overheard saying that, for running, “you couldn’t ask for better race weather.”

The 2016 Glass City Marathon, arguably one of Toledo’s crown-jewel athletic events, marked the 4th consecutive year that Josina Lott volunteered to staff and manage a water stop at the halfway point of the race. In addition to hosting the water-stop, residents also supported this premiere community event by assembling thousands of race-packets, canvassing neighborhoods and passing out traffic information in areas affected by the race route, and attended the Expo and kids marathon the day before the race.

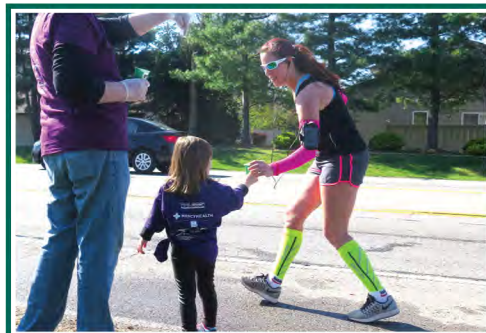
As a nonprofit dedicated to support, enrichment, and community integration, this is an ideal local event for Josina Lott residents and staff to rally behind. We depend on the generosity of the Toledo community so much for volunteers and fundraising support. Volunteering our time is just one way we can show our appreciation and say thank you by giving

back to the community that has given so much to us!

This was the 40th anniversary of the race which started and finished at the campus of the University of Toledo. The 2016 Mercy Health Glass City Marathon played host to an estimated 9,000 runners this year, of which 2,000 participated in the full marathon with the balance competing in the half marathon, 5k, or the five-person full marathon relay.

A colorful cast of characters were mixed in with the field of athletes for sure. From our water stop we watched as a ‘bride and groom’ - bedecked in the comfortable runner’s equivalent of a gown and tux – strode by - flowers, veil, and smiles. We saw a group of three women contestants running in matching outfits AND pink tutu’s. Yes, tutu’s.

On a more somber note, we also saw several Toledo firefighters running in full turnout gear including oxygen tanks; adding an extra 20 pounds of dead weight to their backs. It was over-heard that several firefighters made the run in full gear in memory of their fallen brothers, Jamie Dickman and Stephen Machinski.



A family affair: Josina Lott Program Director Jessica Zercher’s daughter Grace assists at the GSM water stop.

We try our best every year to make our water stop “an event.” This year was no exception. Our favorite DJ’s Larry and Roy of Tradewind DJ’s volunteered in support of our water stop; keeping the music thumping for the entire race and providing motivation and entertainment for the runners as well as our water-stop volunteers.

From the official Glass City Marathon website, one runner said, “I liked the Glass City Marathon better than the Chicago Marathon. The course was faster due to the lack of runner congestion. I never felt unsafe while on the course. The volunteers and local police did an excellent job. My time was 24 minutes quicker than my previous best marathon.”



Local Celebrity Support! Braving the chilly morning, 13abc News’ own Melissa Voetsch ran the Jog & Jaunt 5k.

That is quite the compliment - Chin’s up, chest out Toledo!

A big thanks to everyone who set their alarms early on Sunday morning and came out in support of the Josina Lott water stop including our favorite DJ’s Larry and Roy of Tradewind DJ’s, our college volunteer interns Allison Parton, Tarra Young, Mollie Watson, Ashley Mariucci, Maggie Steinmiller, Kenya Polin, and Katelyn Smith, the Toledo ZOO-Teens, the iDancers, and the residents, staff and family members of Josina Lott.



Results from the Josina Lott Jog & Jaunt 5k/10k

On Sunday May 15, 2016, athletes of all ages and abilities came together in celebration of the competitive spirit at the 4th Annual Josina Lott Jog and Jaunt 5k/10k and 1.5 mile loop (walk).

For the second consecutive year we welcomed over 100 registered runners, walkers, and rollers to the Josina Lott campus. Athletes were greeted by chilly early morning temperatures



Inclusive Miles runners and their mentors practice all year to shine at home in the Jog & Jaunt 5k/10k.

and even some flakes fell from the sky making it seem more like early March rather than mid-May! But thanks to Chef Aaron's post-race menu change this year, we sent everyone off warm, cozy, and content after the pancake and sausage breakfast was served following the awards ceremony!

Overall 5k awards went to Second Sole staffer Matt Leis (0:15:53) and the overall 5k female was awarded to Amanda Geletka (0:23:26).

Overall 10k awards went to John Kirtos (0:43:13) and Julie Bohmer (0:50:26).

Josina Lott - Inclusive Miles was solidly represented in both the 5k and 1.5 mile loop. Participating in the 5k were Darryl Robinson (0:46:03), Justice Jones (0:30:11), Jenny Pope (1:20:47), and Ericka Freeman (1:04:24). John Ross Comes (0:28:04) and Michael Mock (0:42:40) participated in the 1.5 mile loop.

It was an honor to bear witness to our Inclusive Miles athletes as they pushed themselves to the limits on the course. They work very hard all year around training for this event and it showed.

As you can see from the pictures, a fantastic morning was shared by all! We want to thank all of our sponsors, volunteers, race participants and staff; this annual fundraising event wouldn't be possible without your tremendous support!

About the Josina Lott 'Inclusive Miles' Mentored Running Program

As a recreation program, Inclusive Miles links individuals with developmental disabilities with mentors from the Toledo area running community who provide training advice, exercise plans, guidance, and more to athletes training for specific events. As a community integration program, Inclusive Miles provides these athletes the full running experience in diverse venues in Toledo and the surrounding communities.

Inclusive Miles is funded in part by a grant from the Toledo Roadrunners Club. Second Sole has also contributed significantly to this program by offering athletes substantial discounts on footwear as well as sponsorship of the Josina Lott Jog & Jaunt 5k/10k.

Inclusive Miles is open to all individuals with disabilities. If you would like to participate in Inclusive Miles as a runner, mentor, or race sponsor, please contact Tonda Wiles Koszycki at 419 866 9013 ext 148 or recreation@josinalott.org.

Between the Glass City Marathon and Josina Lott Jog & Jaunt, we probably took over 100 event photos! Be sure to check out our website and Facebook pages ('Like Us' while you are there!) for more photos, race results and more.

2016 Jog & Jaunt 5k/10k Sponsors

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JOSINA LOTT
 2016 Jog & Jaunt

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JOSINA LOTT
 2016 Jog & Jaunt

As a recipient of our printed newsletter, there is a good chance that you have had occasion to visit the beautiful campus of Josina Lott Residential & Community Services at some point. So it is reasonable to assume that you are likely familiar with the towering sentry stationed on its rocky perch at the entrance of Fleischer Boulevard.

The Lighthouse.

The Lighthouse is a wooden 10-foot-tall, fully-functioning 'to scale' replica of the Marblehead lighthouse at Lakeside; dedicated in loving memory to the founders of Josina Lott, Fred and Judy Fleischer, in June of 2010. The Fleischer's raised two sons with developmental disabilities and dreamed of creating a small, home-like residential facility that would survive them and provide hope and comprehensive supports to not only their two sons, but to individuals with disabilities and their families across Northwest Ohio.

From a 1997 interview, Judith had this to say about the Fleischer family vision to establish Josina Lott Residential and Community Services, which opened its doors in 1979. *"Fred and I believed that more needed to be done for adults with developmental disabilities when these individuals no longer 'fit' into the standard educational system and could no longer live at home. So we developed a 'dream' of building a residential home for adults,"* said Mrs. Fleischer. She continued, *"We wanted our children and those of others to be educated (like all parents wish for their children) and did not want them to go into an institutional environment,"* she said.



*Created by Terry 'Murphy' Murray
Murphy is a renowned artist and owner
of the Lighthouse Factory of Luna Pier.*

The choice of a lighthouse was a simple one for the Directors serving Josina Lott back in 2009. Fred and Judy are forever remembered as the 'Beacons of Light' that help local families navigate the rocky seas of uncertainty and guide them towards safe harbor; where their loved ones will discover life-enriching residential options and supports right here at home, in their community.

The Lighthouse remains a metaphoric symbol in honor of the Fleischer family vision of a safe, home-like setting where individuals with disabilities can enjoy life in a high quality, therapeutic environment with access to educational supports and opportunities for self-determination and integration.

Fred and Judy's vision lives on today and we are honored to champion that vision.

Erected in 2010, we recently discovered that our wooden lighthouse was in need of some preventative maintenance in order to protect this campus treasure well into the future. The wood was beginning to rot underneath the railings that encircle the crown of the lighthouse and the red paint was losing its vibrant luster after six-years of exposure to the elements. So our beloved memorial to the vision of Fred and Judy Fleischer was boxed up and trailered back to the Lighthouse Factory in Luna Pier, Michigan for restoration and preservation.

The Lighthouse Factory is owned and operated by Terry 'Murphy' Murray who has been sculpting limited edition lighthouse collectibles for over 40 years. Over the decades Murphy has gained a large following of collectors, rumored to include the likes of the late Katherine Hepburn, who appreciate his artistic talent and commitment to creating exact replicas of America's original lighthouses - right down to the minute details including rotating lighting and fog warning devices.

As you can see from the pictures, The Lighthouse has been returned to Josina Lott in its original condition and now rests proudly back on its base at the entrance to campus. The fresh coating of paint has been covered in a new, state of the art chemical sealant which should protect the paint finish from the harsh elements for more than a decade.

The Fleischer's are survived by their son Bill, who continues to thrive along with 32 other adults on the campus of Josina Lott Residential and Community Services.



*Four Men and a Homemade Stretcher
The replica is a behemoth! It took four
people to set the lighthouse back into place.*



*Photo-Cell Lights Campus Entrance
Funded entirely by a major donor in 2009,
the Marblehead replica took a year to build.*



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Seeking Volunteer Gardener, Scout, or Hobbyist for Our Sensory Garden Revival Project

Do you know a landscaping enthusiast, hobbyist, student, or scout member looking for a fun, short-term outdoor pet-project this summer?



Sensory Garden Area
The sensory garden is located behind the East Residence and is in need of TLC.

We have the perfect opportunity for you!

What was once a beautiful sensory garden created for the enjoyment of residents by a local Boy Scout for his Eagle Badge is in need of a little TLC. We will provide the materials needed for the revitalization project - we just need a creative, energetic spirit to take on this project and bring our sensory garden back to life!

A sensory garden provides residents combined sensory opportunities that they don't get to experience in a typical outdoor garden setting. A sensory garden might contain plants

of varying textures that residents could touch and feel. Additional features might include scented and/or edible plants, water features, sculpted bushes and more. Any landscaping feature that stimulates the senses is ideal for a sensory garden.

Most of the infrastructure that originally comprised our sensory garden is still intact. We hope to find a creative, attentive altruist to freshen up the area with new plants, troubleshoot the lighting and water features, and generally add a fresh perspective to this campus common area.



Close Up View of Mini-Pond
The mini-pond once boasted a water feature; this also needs troubleshooting.

If you or someone you know is interested in a fun, short-term summer project, please contact James at 419 866 9013 ext 109 or jdickman@josinalott.org