



Where Reality is Respect, Appreciation, and Fulfillment



RESULTS OF OUR THREE YEAR CARF SURVEY??

Three Year Award through December 31, 2021 !!

We have received our formal CARF Accreditation Report. Some of the strengths the surveyor noted:

- ♦ RRAF has a strong board of directors that works closely with the executive director. Together they provide a strong foundation for the organization.
- ♦ The staff members are skilled at working with people with severe disabilities and stated that, although the work is hard, it is rewarding.
- ♦ The organization consistently does long-range planning, and it is fully aware of the challenges it faces and proactively seeks to achieve the organizational goals in spite of personnel challenges.
- ♦ The organization is financially stable in spite of a shrinking census and inadequate funding.
- ♦ Behaviors are addressed by maintaining a calm environment with activities matched to each peer's capabilities. Although staff members push the peers to grow toward independence, the staff members let the peers learn at their own pace and do not create stress by demanding more than they are capable of achieving.
- ♦ The individual plans are created so learning takes place as soon as the peer enters the program, whether or not the funding agency has provided RRAF with direction. When the funding agency provides the umbrella plan, then RRAF adjusts the plan for the person served.
- ♦ The individual plans are customized to each peer, taking into consideration the peer's functioning level and the input of his/her parents or guardians.
- ♦ The staff members create an environment where the peers are empowered to improve their own behavior and function better with others. The peers are well aware of the antecedents to their behaviors and work to de-escalate behaviors before they become disruptive.

You can read the entire report by going to the Learn More page of our website at RRAF.ORG.



What is Accreditation?

Accreditation is a process that demonstrates a provider has met standards for the quality of its services. CARF International establishes these standards to guide providers in offering their services and also uses the standards to evaluate how well a provider is serving people and how it can improve.

And our Annual DHS Licensure Survey?

We were found 100% compliant !!

GENERAL DONATIONS

Friend (\$10 - \$49)

Amazon Donations

Sponsor (\$50 - \$99)

Susan Collins

Centurian (\$100 - \$499)

John and Kathy Caluwaert
John and Marilyn Moxon
Gerald and Tsue Ostermann
Tim and Carol Rounds
Michelle Welin
Peter Zakos

Benefactor (\$500 and over)

Rotary Club of Wheaton AM

Christ the King
Knights of Columbus,
Council #11027, Lombard

St. Joachim
Knights of Columbus,
Council #15296,
Clarendon Hills

Bishop James E. Fitzgerald
Knights of Columbus,
Council #14649, Downers Grove

St. Matthew
Knights of Columbus,
Council #9893, Glendale Hts.

The date is coming up quickly !!

***Please join us for our
Annual Fall Benefit***

***October 6, 2019,
11:30 am - 3:30 pm,***

***Empress Banquets,
200 East Lake Street, Addison, IL***

***Admission and Raffle Tickets
will soon be available !!***



Current Events We Are Keeping An Eye On:

- The Independent Service Coordination agency for DuPage County may be changing as of July 1st from DayOne PACT to Service, Inc.
- With Governor Pritzker's approval and implementation of the 5-year plan to raise the minimum wage to \$15.00/hour by January 1, 2025, advocates are already at work on our behalf. There is an understanding that reimbursement rates will have to be adjusted to allow organizations like ours to build in the mandatory increases. How the state will work those increases into future budgets is anyone's guess at this time.
- Illinois Rule 119, which covers the requirements for Community Day Service providers like RRAF, is currently being revised. It hasn't been updated since 1999, and a lot has changed since then - including the implementation of the Personal Plan and Implementation Strategy process.
- The state has been granted a 3-year extension so that organizations can continue to work towards full compliance in being found fully community integrated, rather than institutional or facility-based.

IN-KIND DONORS

For the Jewelry Cartel !!

Carol Bartels Sue Budgetell Susan Gray Carolyn Heiney Mary Kies
Kathy Jalowiec Western DuPage Special Recreation Association staff



Programming Donations

Puzzles, Craft Supplies, and much more! Christ the King, Lombard, CCW Members

FROM OUR VP, DAY SERVICES:



Now that the weather is turning for the better, we are increasing our outing frequency and types, along with being able to be outside in our back yard.

This year we hope to do more picnic lunches and BBQ's outside at RRAF, as well as more large group outings like nature walks, taking picnic lunches with us.

This will help us address the need for more community outings, that is a priority focus of the state (and a strong desire for families). Especially, as federal Medicaid folks would like all Community Day Services to be non-facility based as much as possible, to ensure that everyone is clearly integrated into the community.

And, besides, everyone loves to be outside on nice days anyways.

At the beginning of this fiscal year, Marilyn asked me to set targets for program outcomes that I felt most appropriate to work towards this year. These priorities are based on family requests, the group of peers that we currently have, and staffing abilities.

The first outcome was to increase the number of outings. I was hoping for a 5% increase year to year. I'm not sure if we will meet this? But, as staff, we are making a concerted effort to try.

The other two outcomes I chose to put in place are to maximize billable hours – which we are doing, now that routes are stable – and – to maximize our census – a tough area, as it depends primarily on the referrals we get from DayOne PACT and others.

In keeping with the spring theme, I and staff know that we too need to grow and change in order to keep up with the ever-evolving landscape requirements of funders, service coordinators, and most importantly – individual family and peer desires.

Much like the quote by the English poet Algernon Charles Swinburne:

“Blossom by Blossom Spring Begins”

So, too, must we step by step bloom, and spring into something new.

*Thank you,
Zachary Slaughter*

P.S: We could also use a new grill, if anyone has one to donate....





*To Brighten Your Day!!
Our “RRAF artists” love to
paint , color,
and do arts and crafts.
Just one of the activities peers
participate in during the day.*



RESOURCES YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHECK OUT !!

A recent message sent to us via our website was filled with information available on the web. Our thanks to Wondermoms.org for sending us these helpful links!!

Guide to Better Sleep for Kids with Autism

<https://www.sleepjunkie.org/autism-and-sleep>

Autism Resource Center

https://aacap.org/aacap/families_and_youth/resource_centers/autism_resource_center/home.aspx

Creating an Autism Friendly Home

<https://www.bigrentz.com/blog/sensory-friendly-home-modifications-autism-sensory-processing-disorder>

Autism Support Network Resources

<http://www.autismsupportnetwork.com/resources>

Planning a Move with Autism

<https://www.yourstoragefinder.com/moving-with-autism>

30 Ways to Celebrate Autism Awareness Month

<https://praacticalaac.org/praactical/30-ways-to-celebrate-autism-awareness-month>

Autism and Travel

<https://www.thezebra.com/traveling-autism>

Check them out!! And share them as well!! Happy Autism Awareness Month!!!

UNRESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS: October, 2018 through April, 2019

*IN MEMORY*

Donna Anderson
Penny Anderson

Geri Bartels
Erik and Kristin Ralli

Herbert Behrens, Sr.
Penny Anderson
Rhonda Mack

Mark Bingaman
Roger and Sandy Davis

Kay Bjork
Penny Anderson
Rhonda Mack

Leroy and Leona Behrens
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Roger and Sandy Davis

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Ray, Genie, and Mary Urick

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Roger and Sandy Davie

William Sugrue
Roger and Sandy Davis

**Fr. Franklin R. Tasker,
O.Carm**
Roger and Sandy Davis

Nancy Thomas
Penny Anderson

**The Davis Family -
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Mark and Lisa Grzywa

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Paul and Cindy Habura

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Roger and Sandy Davis

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Roger, Sandy, and Brooke Davis

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Nancy Brockmeier
Rich Haas
Ken and Linda Olson
Richard DiPrima
Walt Disney Foundation
Matching Program
Nancy Wilson

Ray Urick's 80th Birthday
Nancy Brockmeier

IN HONOR

Brooke Davis
Frank and Connie Bruno
Key and Costello
Patricia Ellington
Ron and Sue Metty
Michelle Scales
Pete and Lori Sylvester



Families and Friends have
donated over \$27,000 since
July 1, 2018 !!! Thank you, everyone !!!

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Lombard, IL 60148

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Newsletter, April, 2019

BOARD MEMBERS:

Roger Davis
Marilyn Flanagan
Sally Field Mullan
Jessica Vandermeir

OFFICERS:

Sally Field Mullan, President
Marilyn Flanagan, Sr. Vice President, Executive Director, Secretary
Zachary Slaughter, Vice President, Day Services
David Mullan, Treasurer

ACCREDITED BY:

**THE COMMISSION
ACCREDITATION OF
REHABILITATION FACILITIES
(CARF) THROUGH DECEMBER 2021**



Please accept my donation in the amount of:

_____ Benefactor, \$500 _____ Centurian, \$100 _____ Sponsor, \$50
_____ Friend, \$10 _____ Other

This donation is in memory of: _____

honor of: _____

Please send acknowledgement to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please make checks payable to RRAF and mail to 613 South Main Street, Lombard, IL 60148-3341. RRAF is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. All donations not exchanged for goods or services are tax deductible to the extent allowed by IRS regulations. Should you wish a copy of our certified financial audit, please request it in writing to address above.