St. Ann Center's SOSOMS Of Life

People of all ages and abilities spend the day at St. Ann Center because of your support. You made these stories of our joyful intergenerational community possible.

Piecing Life Together

Karl Davis loves a good routine. When he arrives at St. Ann Center's Bucyrus Campus, he carefully unpacks the items he laid out the night beforehis cell phone, tablet and charger, gum, pocket tool kit and favorite Green Bay Packers wallet. "That way, I'm not forgetting anything," he explains. "It's how I compensate."

His easy laugh and ready smile hide the challenges Karl, 58, has faced since a car accident left him disabled and in chronic pain 25 years ago. Things became even more complicated three years ago, when he began forgetting simple things, like why he walked into a room, a conversation he had an hour ago or his address. A hospital evaluation determined he had a form of dementia resulting in shortterm memory loss. "They told us he'd need 24-hour care," says Karl's wife, Sharon, who works full time. "We were totally unprepared."

After visiting several adult day facilities, the Davises found St. Ann Center. "When we walked in the door, people immediately came up to greet us," Karl says, remembering his surprise at the friendly, energetic environment. "Within a week, I felt comfortable...and I knew things were going to be okay." Sharon had the same reaction. "Now I can go to work and relax, knowing Karl is someplace he enjoys and where he feels fulfilled. He gets a good meal, a chance to socialize, and structure"—all things that combat his memory loss.

A client in the Akachi ("hand of God") unit, Karl is a natural-born activity director—organizing card games, finding partners for pool and striking up conversations with the teenagers who regularly volunteer at the center. Sharon has seen a big change in her husband, too. "He's become so engaged, he's taking steps toward going back to work," she says. Karl now divides his weekdays between St. Ann Center and the Milwaukee Center for Independence, where he's involved in a job readiness program.



Expanding his routine hasn't always been easy, Karl (above with his wife Sharon) admits, but it's led to some exciting new opportunities.

"My long-term goal is to get the training I need to work at St. Ann Center," he says. "I've never found a place that's been as welcoming and caring. I'd like to be a part of that."

Dear Friend,

Spring has sprung all around St. Ann Center! Outside, tree buds are swelling and daffodils, crocuses and snowdrops are peeking out. Newly hatched birds are chirping and testing their wings as they prepare to leave the nest. Inside, Julie, one of our adult clients, is wearing a new necklace she fashioned in spring colors of pink and powder blue. And the babies in the Flamingo classroom are moving up to the Salamander room and babbling their very first words.

I see new growth in the student nurses as they interact with our adults and children, becoming more comfortable with every visit. I see new hope as we work to finish our Bucyrus Campus and as businesses and home ownership are revitalized in the neighborhood around us.

Signs of new life are everywhere at St. Ann Center. One of our staff members, John Jansen, put it beautifully, "Every time I walk past the adult clients, one of them causes me to smile, prompting a little emotional rebirth. Sometimes, it's the familiarity of hearing a friendly greeting; sometimes, it's the surprise of seeing someone who hasn't been here for a week or two; sometimes, it's just the gratitude of knowing that all here have a place to go every day where they have friends to socialize with or a physical therapist they love seeing.

"I see the new ideas and attitudes forming in our children as they experience the valuable hands-on lessons of accepting and learning from people much older than they are, who are physically or developmentally disabled. And I see new possibilities in the eyes of people from the community who walk in and see the inside of the building for the first time. They often ask, 'What do you do here?' We do a lot of different things, but mostly we give people—old, young and in between—new life."

J. Edna

CAREGIVERS CORNER

Caregiving is demanding . Backup support can fill in, providing needed breaks.

Ask for and accept help from family and friends. Embrace caregiving as a "team sport." Identify your team members and specific tasks and activities that would be most helpful. Maybe your sister could initiate a Saturday outing with your loved one twice a month. Regularly scheduled events add fun, enhance weekly routines and provide rejuvenating breaks for you.



"Spring is more than a season at St. Ann Center. It's an everyday occurrence."

- Sr. Edna

ON OUR WISH LIST

- → New, gentlyused vintage and heirloom jewelry
- → Large boardroom table and chairs
- → New twin, queen-& king-size sheet sets
- → Full size quilts & comforters
- → Toothbrushes and toothpaste for children & adults
- → Plants & planters

Our wish list is updated online: **stanncenter.org/wishlist**

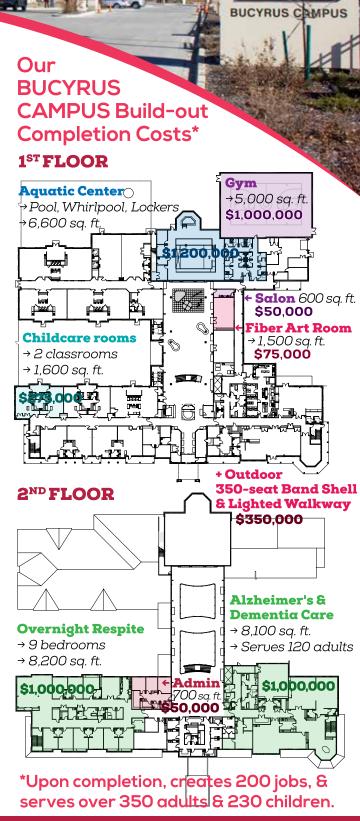
Childcare wish list is on Amazon: https://goo.gl/fNI92V



"We are so appreciative to the State for helping us finish construction of the Bucyrus Campus," said Sr. Edna. "This will allow us to finish building the Alzheimer's/dementia unit, which is so critically needed in this area of town. We will build the gym, finish our classrooms, build a handicapped-accessible Aquatic Center to teach adults with disabilities and neighborhood children to swim, and construct a community band shell and lighted walkway, which will be a focal point for neighborhood gatherings.

"We are committed to building this community from within," Sr. Edna said, "not gentrification."





Soil Cleanup Planned at Bucyrus Campus

While you may be busy planting a garden this spring, St. Ann Center will be digging into a major backyard project of our own-cleaning up the soil on the two-block North Avenue parcel where the Bucyrus Campus is located.

St. Ann Center purchased the 7.5-acre parcel in 2014 for \$1 from the City of Milwaukee. Historically, the property was mostly residential, with a city tool yard on the west side and auto repair shops along North Avenue. Between 1951 and 1969, many on-site buildings were demolished to prepare for construction of the Park West Freeway. After the freeway project was cancelled, the remainder of the buildings were demolished. The land was vacant and a neighborhood concern until St. Ann Center purchased it.



Soil graded to create a hill will be capped, making it safe and in accordance with federal and state requirements. One side of the hill will be engineered into a viewing area for the Indaba Band Shell. The back side will be a children's sliding area.

Starting early this summer, more than six tons of dirt affected by petroleum-based pollutants and metals will be excavated and trucked to a landfill. Other affected soils will be capped by clean soil and safely incorporated into the campus landscape. The costs will be offset by grants from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation and \$400,000 in EPA Brownfield Cleanup grants.

"One of our Franciscan principles is to care for the earth," Sr. Edna says, explaining the attention that was given to creating a soil cleanup plan that is both economical and protective of human health. The cleanup and construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of September, weather permitting.

SCIENCE CAFÉ SCHEDULE Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30p.m.

April 25th, May 30th and June 27th

Topics include: Diabetes, stroke rehabilitation, asthma and GERD, depression and memory loss in the elderly, breast cancer, and PTSD

Food for Thought

The latest in medical research is on the menu at the Science Café—a free speaker series at the Bucyrus Campus. Sponsored by the Medical College of Wisconsin's Clinical & Translational Science Institute, the aim of these talks is to bring research from the laboratory to the people that it will help more quickly.

Caring Beyond the Classroom

Nursing student Anna Yoder has been told the importance of treating everyone as an equal, but she says "It's really proven true at St Ann Center."

She is one of the students who did a clinical rotation at the center through the Columbia College of Nursing in Glendale. The No. 1 takeaway in the community nursing practicum is the importance of "seeing the clients as people," says Meg Brethauer, a clinical assistant professor. "Society tends to walk past and not see people who are blind or in a wheelchair. After the clinical," Meg says, "students stop and talk to everyone."

Students come one day a week for 15 weeks and rotate through various departments. Each student meets weekly with a client and learns about his or her health history. The clients like having "their" nurse, Meg says. This is the fourth semester Columbia College has offered a clinical at St. Ann Center.



Nursing student Haley Clarl works with Jane Galbraith on OT exercises (left); Courtney Domagalski helps kids locate their noses (right).

The intergenerational aspect has a huge appeal. Anna, who especially liked working with the 2-year-olds, can attest to that. "It was pretty cool to see how excited the adults got when they saw the children," she says, and it showed how adaptive the children are when interacting with adults. "They're very friendly toward everyone."

The students are also trained in St. Ann Center's Benevolent Touch massage technique. Anna was amazed to see how much clients open up to the nurses when they are made comfortable, especially in a non-hospital setting. She also learned the value of patience, particularly with clients who have Alzheimer's disease or need extra time to eat or walk. These experiences will serve Anna and her classmates well when they have patients of their own.

Making a Splash

When Aquatic Center Director Nicole Michalak needed ideas to make swimming for all ages more fun, her father, Frank, was a lifesaver.

"He not only helped me brainstorm games our kids and clients could play in the pool," she says. "He built all the equipment we needed." His splashy apparatus includes a floating tic-tac-toe board and a water ball toss game made with PVC pipe, pieces of pool noodles and plastic balls. "Our older kids and adult clients really enjoy playing the new games," Nicole says. "And Dad is thrilled that people are having fun using them."





Get #AgeAmped

Inspired by the energy of Summerfest, the World's Largest Music Festival, the theme of the Global Intergenerational Conference, happening June 13-16, is Generations Remixed!

Happening at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Milwaukee, the event attracts professionals, educators and advocates in the intergenerational field from all around the world. "The idea is – just like an artist creates exciting tracks by mixing different notes and beats – a community is better when it uses the talents of its members of all ages," says Cathy Feldkamp, St. Ann Center's conference coordinator.

COHOSTS

Generations





United, St. Ann Center will cohost this 19th biennial conference. Since 1988, "the conference has been a unique opportunity for professionals to connect with others in the field and to be inspired by the latest intergenerational programs, research and policies from around the world," says Emily Patrick, Generations United project manager. "Milwaukee and many of its neighboring communities show a commitment to connecting the generations and offer an abundance of hands-on learning opportunities that go beyond the walls of a workshop."

PRECONFERENCE LEARNING

Opportunities before the event include: the Shared-Site Replication Summit led by St. Ann Center: the Grandfamilies Forum by Generations United; and the Milwaukee Intergenerational Program Tour with bus stops at the United Community Center, Cherry Street Gardens by SET Ministry, and St. John's on the Lake in partnership with Stage Right Theatre.

KEYNOTE: Tod Lending

An Academy Award-nominated and Emmy Award-winning producer, director, writer, and cinematographer will be the keynote speaker at the opening session on Thursday, June 15. Lending is best known for his feature-length documentary,

"Legacy," which tells the story of one African-American family overcoming adversity in their community. This film inspired federal housing legislation benefitting grandparents raising grandchildren.

PLENARY: Anne Basting Ph.D.

Milwaukee's own educator, scholar, artist, and MacArthur Fellow will lead an interactive session featuring her innovative models for using creative expression to connect generations and improve communities. Basting's work speaks volumes to the power of creative engagement.



WORKSHOPS & MORE

Additional conference highlights include the Generations United Awards Luncheon, roundtable discussions, poster sessions and networking opportunities. Conference workshops will explore such topics such as intergenerational program development, policies & advocacy, community building strategies, supports for grandfamilies, and more. Program proposals came from 14 countries, and attendees are traveling from as far as Australia and Japan.

TO REGISTER / FOR MORE INFO

Register online through June 12 at guconference.org/register.

Contact Cathy Feldkamp for more information cfeldkamp@stanncenter.org | (414) 977-5028

CONFERENCE LINEUP* TUESDAY, JUNE 13

8am-4pm Preconference: St. Ann Center Shared-Site Replication Summit (Day 1)

In-depth training on replicating our modelproviding community-based day services for children and adults, overnight respite and aquatic center-under one caring roof. Day 1 at Zimmerman Architectural Studios includes keynote Donna Butts and workshops. Day 2 features focused tours of the Stein and Bucyrus Campuses. Sponsored by Bader Philanthropies.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

7:30am-Noon: Replication Summit (Day 2)

9am-Noon Preconference: Grandfamilies Forum

1pm-4pm Preconference: Milwaukee Intergenerational Program Tour

5:30-7:30pm: #AgeAmped Kick-off Reception

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

8am-9:15am: Midwest Program Showcase

9:15-10:15am: Keynote Tod Lending **10:30-11:30am:** Workshop Block 1

11:45-1:15pm: Generations United Awards Luncheon

1:30-2:30pm: Workshop Block 2

2:30-3:15pm: Poster Session & Refreshment Break **3:15-4:15 & 4:30-5:30pm:** Workshop Blocks 3 & 4

FRIDAY. JUNE 16

7:30am-8:15am: Morning Buzz Session

8:30-10:00am: Plenary: Anne Basting Ph.D.

10:15-11:15am: Workshop Block 5

11:30-12:45pm: Janet Sainer Networking Lunch

1:00-2:30pm: Roundtable Discussions

2:45-3:30pm: Closing Session

Times are subject to change. Find the most up-to-date schedule at guconference.org.

Thank you Sponsors







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Summer Fundraisers



MEET US @THE MARKETS!

Sister Edna's Creations

Cathedral Square Market, 520 E. Wells St. Saturdays, June 3-Oct. 7, 9a.m.-1p.m.

St. Ann Center Jams, Jellies & Soups

South Shore Farmers Market, 2900 S. Shore Dr., Saturdays, June 17-Oct. 14, 8 a.m.-12 noon.



Stu's Charity **Golf Outing**

Saturday, July 29th Western Lakes Golf Club stanncenter.org/golf



SAVE THE DATE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 4TH

6:00 p.m. | DISCOVERY WORLD MUSEUM RSVP and become a sponsor at stanncenter.org/gala





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CALENDAR UPDATES

April 3 Hall of Friends

April 5 Caregiver Support Group

April 14 Family Fun Night at the Pool

April 17 Aquatic Session 3 begins

April 18 Parkinson's Support Group

April 25 Science Café

April 27 Benevolent Touch (BT) Workshop

April 28 BT National Instructor Certification

April 29 Indoor Market & Rummage Sale

May 3 Caregiver Support Group

May 6 Charity Cash Raffle Drawing

May 16 Parkinson's Support Group

May 29 Both Campuses CLOSED

May 30 Science Café

June 2 Family Fun Night at the Pool

June 5 Aquatic Session 4 Begins

June 13-16 Global Intergenerational Conference and Replication Summit

June 20 Parkinson's Support Group

June 27 Science Café

Hall Of Friends

Monday, April 3rd, 11:00am Stein Campus: 2801 E. Morgan Ave.

We're honoring three friends for their time and talent given to people of all ages at the center.

Jim Gormley met Sr. Edna 19 yrs. ago. He's served as a pro bono lawyer, on the Capital Campaign Committee and as board chair. Sr. Edna says, "His leadership and legal expertise are invaluable."

Nancy Macek has volunteered in the gift shop, café and market for 16 years. A painter, she curates the center's gallery of local art. "Nancy never misses a day of our winter market," Sr. Edna says.

Jim Lenahan is a board member (past chair) and on the Audit and Capital Campaign Committees. "He's a brilliant businessman, committed to serving the most needy," Sr. Edna says.

Archbishop Jerome E. Listecki will speak and awards will be presented by clients and children.