The past year has been filled with unexpected challenges. The Illinois Center for Autism was notified on March 13th that our face-to-face services would be suspended by state order due to COVID-19 on March 17th and to expect being closed for two to four weeks. That was not much notice but our staff responded by preparing and mailing a week’s worth or educational materials to 127 families to minimize the disruption to their educational services. Little did we know challenges would continue to present themselves for months – not weeks.

We were forced to cancel and postpone fundraising events resulting in revenue loss in excess of $100,000. At the same time, our expenses for cleaning, disinfecting, personal protective equipment, and mobile technology increased by $25,000 in three months with an annual increase in expenses projected at $75,000. As if that wasn't enough, we had two vans parked on our parking lot hit and totaled by a drunk driver.

We could have put our head down and gone into survival mode. Instead, we chose to embrace each challenge as an opportunity. The first opportunity was developing and implementing a remote learning plan to meet our students’ and family’s needs. We started with paper packets, expanded to telephone and email support, and developed a robust online video instruction model. That online instruction required ICA to purchase dozens of android tablets and wifi hotspots so families of our students and adult clients could have the technology to engage these new services.

The next opportunity were the calls coming in from families asking for help feeding children who lost access to the free hot breakfast and lunch ICA provides to every student each day. Our Client and Family Support program responded with a food drive and quickly transitioned to providing grocery gift cards to help support nearly 40 of our neediest families each week. The grocery gift cards gave families more choices and allowed the support to be provided as safely as possible during COVID-19.

At every turn, ICA’s dedicated staff and its supporters have been there to make sure every family’s needs are met as fully as possible. We know more opportunities lie ahead and with your unwavering support ICA will rise to the occasion and continue to make a difference in our community one student, one client, one family at a time.

Thank you and stay healthy,
Program Synopsis

Current CDC statistics indicate 1 in 54 children are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). ICA understands the unique need of individuals with ASD and recognizes the importance of support in education, health, and social emotional well-being so the 144 students we served this year become whole, healthy, educated adults. These supports, particularly in the area of social emotional well-being, provide a process for students to acquire the knowledge, attitude and skills they need to recognize and manage their emotions, demonstrate caring and concern for others, establish positive relationships, make responsible decisions and handle challenging situations constructively. Much of which was tested by the COVID-19 pandemic near the end of our school year. Parents, teachers, students and staff all came together to continue our individualized PEAK learning via technology and the U.S. Postal Service. Virtual classrooms, virtual IEPs and drive-by graduations are becoming the new normal.

Our Client/Family Support Program (CFSP) evolved based on the importance of education, training and advocacy for individuals with ASD and parent/family empowerment. Prior to ICA offering services through CFSP, many individuals were sent to state institutions. The more educated the family becomes about ASD and behavioral techniques, the more successful the child will be in school, at work and in the community. The program also facilitates monthly support group meetings, First Responder trainings, Linkage, resources, services and a social advocacy club for young adults. Clients develop positive friendships/relationships with peers, positive self-concept/esteem/self-efficacy and skills for self-advocacy. The end of this fiscal year required an aggressive plea for provisions to fulfill resources and services due to COVID-19 and we found ourselves providing much more than ever before to our clients.

Ending out our fiscal year with the pandemic of the century, our services never wavered during a time when the typical and necessary face-to-face services could not safely occur. We conquered our quest to take on with full force the world of technology and feverishly continued, albeit, remotely, to provide necessary services, even outside the normal care, to our students, clients and their families throughout. We met the challenges of remote learning in our school program – a task never before attempted by ICA. The pandemic and precautions surrounding COVID-19 created confusion with our adult clients, who habitually report to work and/or a day training program where we foster ongoing communications, work and social skills training, as well as teamwork and comradery. The super heroes that are our staff and our families created a tag-team effort to keep all our adults and students engaged, aware, and processing this world-changing event, while at the same time, moving forward towards their individual life-goals.
Demographics

2020 Financial Summary

Support and Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
<td>$223,218</td>
<td>$213,221</td>
<td>$216,415</td>
<td>$216,004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$357,999</td>
<td>$183,496</td>
<td>$202,923</td>
<td>$302,900</td>
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<td>Fundraising Events (net)</td>
<td>$17,544</td>
<td>$86,143</td>
<td>$111,298</td>
<td>$96,813</td>
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<td>Department of Human Services</td>
<td>$523,069</td>
<td>$570,220</td>
<td>$498,905</td>
<td>$477,393</td>
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<td>Mental Health Boards</td>
<td>$266,810</td>
<td>$281,501</td>
<td>$271,271</td>
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<td>Bi-State Grant</td>
<td>$63,524</td>
<td>$69,951</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$5,373,552</td>
<td>$5,031,488</td>
<td>$4,543,742</td>
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<td>Program Service Fees</td>
<td>$5,538</td>
<td>$8,758</td>
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<td>Sales (net)</td>
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<td>$109,229</td>
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<td>Interest Income</td>
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<td>E-Rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Support and Revenue</td>
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<td>$6,555,347</td>
<td>$6,016,811</td>
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Expenses

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<th>2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Educational Service</td>
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<td>Client and Family Services</td>
<td>$205,364</td>
<td>$174,359</td>
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<td>Adult Services</td>
<td>$921,976</td>
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<td>Management and General</td>
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<td>$685,194</td>
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<td>Total Expenses</td>
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<td>$6,457,266</td>
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Change in Net Assets

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<th>2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>$32,601</td>
<td>$98,082</td>
<td>$73,350</td>
<td>$101,441</td>
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EXPERIENCES

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<tr>
<td>Educational Services</td>
<td>73%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Services</td>
<td>13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
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<tr>
<td>Client/Family Support</td>
<td>3%</td>
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BUDGET

$6,266,371
We would like to thank our Board members, staff, volunteers, and advocates who have generously donated this year.
$500 +
Auto Spa Car Wash and Auto Spa Express
Bank of Springfield
Jo Barnett
Beloman
John Breslin
Darrell & The Honorable Judy Cates
Lynn Clapp
Cognati Group dba Culvers of Collinsville
Dana Conner
Elks Lodge-Fairview Heights
Far Oaks Golf Club
Eli Gerson
Dannie & Amy Golden
Granite City Elks Lodge #1063
Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C.
Kathy Hatton
Holland Construction Services
John & Eve Holzemer
Jarvis Electric, Inc.
Junior Service of St. Clair County
Knights of Columbus #1143
Knights of Columbus #1382
Knights of Columbus #1580
Knights of Columbus #2932
Knights of Columbus #6625
Knights of Columbus #9266
Rich & Beth Kwentus
Donna Mann
Memorial Regional Health Services
- BJC Medical Group
Virginia Moeller
Cathy Nelson
Permobil Foundation
Peterbilt of St. Louis
Pizza Hut
Tim Provow
Herb & Nancy Roach
Rubin Brown Certified Public Accountants & Business Consultants
Society of American Military Engineers
Edward & Susan Szekely
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
Total Wine & More
United Way of Bergen County
Wilke Window & Door, Inc.
Clayborne and Wagner, LLP
Madonna Cooke
Delta Dental of Illinois
Target-Edwardsville
Erdmann Law Office
Fairview Heights Fire Department
Ken Fenoglio
FKG Oil Company
Fronstream
Greater Green Bay Foundation
Hanks Excavating & Landscaping, Inc.
Mandy Hart
J. T. McDermott Remodeling Contractors
Julian Joseph
Blake & Melanie Keck
Kiwanis Club of Fairview Heights
Knights of Columbus #1712
Knights of Columbus Tri City Assembly #0224
Knights of Columbus Tri-Cities Council #1098
Stacey Kohl
Kraus Automotive
Roger & Marion Lyons-Koch
Christina Maloney
Marketplace Magazine
Donna Meyers
Mississippi Valley Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge #1009
Pat Newsome
Anne Pisetta
Ellen Powers
Crystal Preston-Watson
Mary Quigg
Untress Quinn
Rotary Club of Fairview Heights
Reverie Rowlett
Sales Force
Kendra Scott
Danita Springfield
St. Clair Country Club
Dave & Kelly Stelmach
Dan & Karen Strobo
SWIC Nursing Students
Target-Alton
Target-Chicago
Billy Thompson
Todd & Mary Taylor
The Wednesday Club, Inc.
Town & Country Bank
Richard & Diane Vincent
Brett & Elise White

$250 +
Accessible Storage
Kent & Dr. Mary Agne
Amazon Smiles
Paul & Christine Baeske
Bank of Belleville
Make a current donation to Illinois Center for Autism from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) tax-free. The donation amount counts toward your required annual minimum distribution and is not considered income for tax purposes.

Leave a lasting gift that will benefit future generations of children and adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) by naming the Illinois Center for Autism in your estate plan, insurance policy, Will, or IRA. Partner with us to make a big impact.

There can be significant tax advantages to donating retirement assets to ICA as part of your estate plan. When done properly, charitable donations of retirement assets can minimize the amount of income taxes imposed on both your individual heirs and your estate.

For more information contact:

**Cindy Guthrie**
Planned Giving Officer

**618-973-5570**

cindyg@illinoiscenterforautism.org

We recommend that you always contact your legal and tax professionals for more information.