



FOCUS on
diversity



OAK-LEYDEN
Developmental Services, Inc.

2008
annual report

MISSION *statement*

The mission of **Oak-Leyden** is to help people with developmental disabilities meet life's challenges and reach their highest potential.

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DEAR *friends and family,*

Year after year, Oak-Leyden Developmental Services has dedicated itself to providing the highest quality services and supports that *help people with developmental disabilities meet life's challenges and reach their highest potential.* Despite the fiscal challenges gripping the nation, inadequate funding from the State of Illinois for community services for people with developmental disabilities, and the divestment of its 16-person group home in Berwyn, Oak-Leyden persevered and emerged fiscally stronger and more committed to helping its participants enjoy a quality of life in their communities that they desire and deserve.

With the support of its generous community partners, Oak-Leyden continued to provide vital services to over 600 children and adults with developmental disabilities in a variety of programs. The Early Intervention Program's Music Together® program entered its third year of inclusive classes for children with and without disabilities. Community Living Services expanded its residential offerings with the purchase of a group home for adults with developmental disabilities in Melrose Park. The Developmental Training Program diversified its curriculum to include sign language classes, current events studies, etc., enhancing its offerings to participants. With the assistance of the Supported Employment Program,

fifty-four adults secured and/or maintained gainful, meaningful employment in their communities with a diverse group of employers. Having completed its eighth year, the Multidisciplinary Clinic continued to ensure participants received the most coordinated and comprehensive healthcare services, partnering with many community providers. Oak-Leyden proudly boasts of its partnerships throughout fiscal 2008 with its distinct group of benefactors.

Confidently facing the future, Oak-Leyden looks forward to increasing employment opportunities and expanding housing availability for adults with developmental disabilities, providing support to children with disabilities and their families to increase their ability to fully participate in their communities, and empowering participants to live as independently as possible. With a strong foundation of support from its Board of Directors, staff, and most importantly, constituents, Oak-Leyden is poised to continue its legacy of providing services and supports to participants that promote individual choice and greater independence in every aspect of their lives. We invite you to join us in our efforts to continue to help people with developmental disabilities reach their highest potential.

Sincerely,



Lou Soteras
President, Board of Directors



Robert W. Atkinson
President & CEO





melanie

When she was only a few months old, Melanie traveled thousands of miles from her native South American country to River Forest, Illinois. While she had received quality medical and developmental care, her single, adoptive mother wanted to ensure she had the best start in her new life in the United States. Melanie was evaluated through Oak-Leyden's Early Intervention Program (EIP) and demonstrated mildly-delayed language skills. Due to her limited exposure to the English language at that time, her case was closed with plans to re-evaluate her in six months. At her subsequent evaluation, she had not progressed as expected and began receiving speech/language therapy and developmental therapy through EIP. Additionally, Melanie and her mother enrolled in a community music class at Oak-Leyden. Her therapists – Susan and Brandi – worked closely with Melanie and her mother. By the time she was two-years-old, she played and interacted with her same-age peers and exited the EIP. Melanie's mother, new to parenthood, gained confidence in her parenting abilities and in her support of Melanie in achieving critical milestones in her development. Melanie, now 2-1/2-years-old, is successfully participating in a regular preschool in her community.

EARLY intervention program

We believe that if families and early intervention specialists work together, each child will be given the opportunity to realize his/her full potential.

Since 1975, Oak-Leyden Developmental Services' Early Intervention Program has provided services and supports for children birth through age 3 and their families. Children who are experiencing delays in development or who have a qualifying medical diagnosis receive individualized care and support to lessen the impact of their delays and increase their ability to fully participate in their communities. The family-centered approach is provided in the child's natural environments, working with the child's caregivers and taking advantage of everyday learning opportunities.

SERVICES AND SUPPORTS PROVIDED THROUGH EARLY INTERVENTION

- Developmental evaluation and direct developmental, occupational, physical, and speech/language therapy for infants and toddlers, from birth to 3-years-old;
- Parent education in strategies and activities designed to meet their child's individual needs;
- Parent support through social events, and upon request, parent-to-parent linkages;
- Family support services and developmental play groups, as well as field trips, family outings, and referrals to outside services.

In 2007, Oak-Leyden Developmental Services launched a *Music Together®* program. Oak-Leyden subscribes to the philosophy of *Music Together®* - that all children are musical and can achieve basic music competence, and that the participation of parents and caregivers, regardless of their musical ability, is essential to a child's musical growth. Oak-Leyden chose this particular music class because of its focus on parent-child interaction. Children in the surrounding communities can enroll in *Music Together®* so classes provide an inclusive environment for children with developmental disabilities.



statistics

Early Intervention therapists provided 8,713 hours of services and supports to almost 300 children in FY08.

VOCATIONAL services

DEVELOPMENTAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Oak-Leyden's vocationally-based Developmental Training Program offers activities and classes to adults with developmental disabilities based on choice and individual preference. The ages of culturally diverse individuals who participate in the program range from 18 to 80. The program is intended to help adults with disabilities learn the skills they need to live as independently as possible, to provide them with meaningful activities that promote their independence, and acclimate them to their communities. In some cases, the program takes advantage of special talents and interests the individuals possess. There are a variety of "clubs" the participants can enjoy including a *Chicago Cubs Club*, *Drama Club*, and *Seniors Club*. Other classes that are offered include sign language, cooking, math, computers, exercise, arts and crafts, board games, line dancing, bingo, current events, and nutrition. Participants are encouraged to join small groups who enjoy bowling, restaurants, shopping, museums, movies, theaters, libraries, parks, amusement parks, fishing, kite flying, etc. in local communities. Contract work is sometimes available through **Oak Industries**, Oak-Leyden's subcontracting business, for individuals interested in developing work experience. There are also group enclaves that work in the community supervised by a Job Coach through the **Maintenance Training Program**.

Oak-Leyden's green initiative - Double Green Totes

- offers some participants the opportunity to earn income producing the recycled-jean totes. From sewing the totes to stenciling the unique Double Green Tote logo or adding beaded decoration, participants actively engage in production of the totes that are sold at Oak-Leyden and through local vendors. Donations of gently-used jeans are always welcome!



christopher

Christopher, 23, wants nothing more than to be as independent as other young men his age. Having a developmental disability has not stopped him from being a man on-the-go. Christopher's weekday routine included transportation via PACE bus daily between his Elmwood Park home where he resides with his family and Oak-Leyden's Developmental Training Program in Franklin Park. Not content with this arrangement and seeking to venture out in his community independently, Christopher, on his own, learned to use public transportation. Christopher is a very outgoing young man who is not afraid to ask questions. His mother had some misgivings about his learning to take public transportation, afraid that because he is mildly mentally retarded he would be vulnerable on his own in the community. He now takes the bus or train to Irving Park Mall or the bowling alley among other places. Given that one of the barriers to community employment is transportation, learning this skill puts Christopher ahead of the game. When asked if Christopher will be transitioning to the Supported Employment Program anytime soon, staff added, "Christopher would love to have a job in the community and one day he will. He still has a few more skills to master, but don't rule him out."

employment partners

CONCORD PLACE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
DOMINICK'S
FAIRSHARE FINER FOODS
FITNESS CENTER OF OAK PARK RIVER FOREST
GO BANANAS!
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JEWEL-OSCO
LAKE THEATER
MCDONALD'S
OAK PARK RIVER FOREST HIGH SCHOOL
OAK-LEYDEN DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
SALVATION ARMY
SAM'S CLUB CICERO
TARGET
VICTORY CENTER
WAL-MART
WONDERWORKS CHILDREN'S MUSEUM



SUPPORTED employment

For over 50 years, Oak-Leyden has maintained that people with developmental disabilities can learn the skills needed to attain gainful employment at a myriad of jobs in the communities in which they reside. The Supported Employment Program as such, initiated in 1986, was and is intended to ensure that people with developmental disabilities are individually supported to obtain and maintain jobs in the community.

PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORT THROUGH:

Job Club

Job Placement

On-site Job Coaching

Transportation Training

Job Shadowing

Socialization Skills Training

Case Management

Successful, gainful employment by adults with disabilities leads to greater financial independence, opportunities to obtain benefits, and personal autonomy that can positively impact their quality of life.



brandy

Brandy is one of three individuals employed by Concord Place Retirement & Assisted Living Community. She receives services through Oak-Leyden's Supported Employment Program. With the guidance of her Job Coach, MaryAnn, Brandy works diligently delivering food to residents' rooms and keeping the facility's dining room spotless! Concord Place has been so pleased with Brandy's work ethic and performance, they have added more challenging tasks to her repertoire of duties! Brandy now gladly helps with food preparation and baking! Oak-Leyden graciously presented Concord Place with the Employer of the Year for 2008 for their willingness to give Oak-Leyden participants the opportunity to have gainful and meaningful employment that has positively impacted their quality of life!

COMMUNITY living services

Oak-Leyden's Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILA) provide adults with developmental disabilities comfortable, family-like homes in communities in western Cook County. Adults are provided 24-hour support and care that promote personal independence and physical well-being. Individualized services and supports help adults with disabilities develop basic living skills so they may live as independently as possible. Caring direct support professionals ensure the well-being and safety of participants and help them make their houses, homes.

In spacious, comfortable homes in the communities of Westchester, Berwyn, Forest Park, Oak Park, Franklin Park, Melrose Park, and Northlake, adults with developmental disabilities enjoy a quality of life much like their neighbors do. Each individual has their own personal space within the home they share with other adults. Residents are supported to contribute to the running of their homes, participating in daily activities such as cooking, cleaning, and maintaining the shared living spaces. They also enjoy activities together such as barbecues, family gatherings, and celebrations in their homes. The diversity of the participants is notable when they share their preferences in planning recreational outings into their communities. From movies to hockey games to live theater performances, Oak-Leyden participants are frequently seen enjoying a night on the town!



william

William, who resides with four other adults with developmental disabilities in a Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) in Berwyn, has a passion for electronics. William's personal goal in the past year was to save enough money to purchase the electronic equipment of his dreams. With support from staff, he planned a budget and over a six-month period of time, saved enough money from his work as a Greeter at WalMart (since 2001) to purchase and have installed a big-screen HD television, and a multi-disk CD player. William, 48, loves to invite his friends over to hang out in his bedroom, relaxing to some tunes or watching all the football action in high definition. His room is his own personal "party room!"





MULTIDISCIPLINARY *clinic*

In a direct response to one of the largest service gaps existing today for people with developmental disabilities—adequate healthcare—Oak-Leyden began a Multidisciplinary Clinic in 2000 to ensure participants receive appropriate and timely attention to their health and wellness needs. The Clinic coordinates traditional and specialized healthcare services to ensure participants' physical and behavioral needs are met.

The Multidisciplinary Clinic (MDC) is not a place. It is a treatment strategy tailored to the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities many of whom have disabilities, many unique, and sometimes complex, medical issues. Oak-Leyden's group of clinicians focuses on each individual's circumstances, coordinating their efforts to deliver services that will improve their quality of life. In FY08, Oak-Leyden welcomed Dr. Mary Alice Povolny, Ph.D., a licensed clinical psychologist to its coalition of medical professionals providing services to participants.

By receiving the appropriate attention to their health and wellness needs, people with developmental disabilities have one less obstacle in their journey towards maximized independence and community involvement. Problems that are simple, yet easily overlooked, can affect many aspects of a person's life. With coordinated care through the Multidisciplinary Clinic, these needs are more easily identified and can be quickly addressed by the MDC team.

The MDC received the prestigious designation of "Exemplary" in a review process by The Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission in (CARF) in 2007.

fred

For years, Fred lived in a quaint walk-up Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) home in Oak Park. Because of his deteriorating health, it became more and more difficult for Fred, 52, to traverse the stairs to his second-floor home. Staff discussed this with Fred and all agreed it would be safer for him to move to another CILA — a fully-accessible ranch home in Berwyn. Fred was very worried about the move and subsequent changes. His case manager and clinical staff spent time discussing the move with him and he received counseling to make the transition as smooth and uncomplicated as possible. Fred made many visits to his new home, helping to get his very first private bedroom ready and even picking out the paint color for it. As he got to know his new housemates, he became more comfortable with the idea of moving to a new home. Since Fred's move to his new home in Berwyn, staff report that he has blossomed. He has become more outgoing, helps with chores around the house, and goes on outings in the community with his housemates. Fred had expressed how worried he was about this change in his life but now says he loves his new home and his own space. Out of necessity for Fred's safety came a new adventure for him.

STATEMENT *of activities*

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR JULY 1, 2007 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2008

INCOME	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
Grants	\$ 614,991	\$134,925	\$ 749,916
Program Service/Contract Revenue	\$6,144,749	\$ 0	\$6,144,749
Contributions & Other Income	\$ 224,274	\$ 52,350	\$ 276,624
Total Income	\$6,984,014	\$187,275	\$7,171,289
EXPENSES			
Program Services	\$5,991,412	\$ 0	\$5,991,412
General and Administrative Services	\$1,085,740	\$ 0	\$1,085,740
Total Expenses	\$7,077,152	\$ 0	\$7,077,152
Released from Restriction	\$ 96,360	(\$ 96,360)	\$ 0
Gain on Sale	\$ 1,800	\$ 0	\$ 1,800
Change in Net Assets	\$ 5,022	\$ 90,915	\$ 95,937
Beginning Net Assets	\$1,374,567	\$458,581	\$1,833,148
Ending Net Assets	\$1,379,589	\$549,496	\$1,929,085

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION JUNE 30, 2008

ASSETS		
Current Assets		\$1,015,923
Fixed Assets		\$3,036,797
Total Assets		\$4,052,720
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		\$1,455,521
Long Term Liabilities		\$ 668,114
Total Liabilities		\$2,123,635
NET LIABILITIES		
Unrestricted		\$1,379,589
Temporarily Restricted		\$ 549,496
Total Net Assets		\$1,929,085
Total Liabilities & Net Assets		\$4,052,720

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in memorium

DAVID W. STEMPEL
1937-2009

David Stempel will be fondly remembered for his service and support to Oak-Leyden Developmental Services and the people with developmental disabilities we serve. Mr. Stempel's dedication to Oak-Leyden was evident in all of his efforts as a volunteer, Board member, advocate, parent, and friend. He served on several committees during his tenure on the Board of Directors and actively participated in fundraising events. He will be greatly missed by everyone at Oak-Leyden.

In tribute to Dave, Oak-Leyden has established the David W. Stempel Memorial Fund. If you would like to make a gift to the memorial fund, please send your donation to:

Oak-Leyden Developmental Services
411 Chicago Avenue
Oak Park, IL 60302

Or go to our website – **www.oak-leyden.org**



OAK-LEYDEN

Developmental Services, Inc.

411 Chicago Avenue

Oak Park, IL 60302

708-524-1050

www.oak-leyden.org