

New beds arrive at the Center

2017 Circle of Caring donors raise funds to purchase new beds and mattresses for Hattie Larlham residents



The highlight of our annual Circle of Caring event is always our “Fund A Need” Auction. In 2017, donors and event guests raised their paddles and donated nearly \$65,000 to support the purchase of new beds for the residents at the Hattie Larlham Center for Children with Disabilities. These funds allowed us to purchase 18 new beds and eight mattresses – a significant investment in the comfort and safety of residents for years to come. We are incredibly grateful to our donors, and wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to this fund.

The beds at the Center are not just any bed. Each is customized to meet the unique needs of the resident. Three types of beds are currently in use:

- *Sleep Safe* beds feature a mattress that can be lowered below the sides, making a bedrail unnecessary
- *Cribs* allow quick access to a baby that a traditional crib does not provide
- *Low beds* allow residents who have the ability to crawl or roll to have freedom, and to position themselves as they would like. At the same time, the bed can be elevated so that staff can provide care to the resident without having to get down on the floor.

Further, the beds are fully electric and feature adjustable height, giving caregivers more flexibility in positioning residents and bringing the bed to a safe and comfortable level that helps prevent caregiver injuries. Each resident’s bed is further customized by our therapy team. Staff creates a positioning program and fabricates custom padding, pillow wedges, and foam pieces to promote comfort and fit around each person’s orthopedic needs.

Because our residents get in and out of bed much more frequently than a typical nursing home patient, the wear-and-tear on the beds is significantly greater than in most long term care centers.

The need for new beds still exists; though we were able to purchase 18 beds, there are still more than 100 resident beds and cribs that will need to be replaced over the coming years. The cost of new beds for our residents ranges from \$1,500 for a low bed to just under \$6,000 for a Sleep Safe bed. If you or your company would like to support the purchase of these special beds for our precious residents, please contact Development Officer Wendy Voelker at 330-840-6845 or wendy.voelker@hattielarlham.org.



Dear friends,

In her retirement address in 1977, Mrs. Larlham spoke about the “rapidly changing concepts” during the time she and her husband Dick established the Hattie Larlham Foundation. She pointed to three factors that made her experience rewarding and helped the organization be successful: “truly great supporters” of the people we serve, tremendous strides made “toward more humanized care and treatment,” and “the beginning of community awareness of what the needs and responses are, and how they may be met more effectively.”

These same three ingredients are as necessary to our success today as they were 60 years ago.



In the last year, Hattie Larlham weathered significant changes that led to major improvements in our operations and the Boards’ decision that Hattie Larlham will remain a vital, leading independent organization in the field, providing opportunities for comfort, joy, and achievement to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities for years to come. Our leadership is developing a strategic vision for our outstanding programs and creating solid business plans to grow and sustain them. Coupled with strong financial and program management will be a broad but strategic approach to fundraising.

The stories and updates in this edition of Focus demonstrate that Hattie Larlham continues unsurpassed in the quality of services it provides in Northeast and Central Ohio. If something you read here inspires you to volunteer, contribute financially toward our work, or share ideas and experiences on how we can improve what we do, please contact us. As Mrs. Larlham said, our “truly great friends” are what make the difference and help us to achieve what was once thought impossible. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Stephen Colecchi, CEO

Michael Weinhardt, President
Board of Directors, Hattie Larlham Care Group

We're Moving

The Hattie Larlham Foundation, Executive Administration and Accounting and Finance offices are moving to our main campus, the Center for Children with Disabilities. Effective August 31, our new address will be 9772 Diagonal Road, Mantua, Ohio 44255. Phone numbers will remain the same. Please update your records.



Corporate volunteers connect, add value and fun



Volunteers are an important part of the work we do here at Hattie Larlham. When you volunteer with Hattie Larlham, you can make a difference in the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. And corporate volunteers are no different! Not only does volunteering feel good, but a corporate volunteer program can also be a smart investment for a company. Corporate volunteer experiences can strengthen trust and collaboration; improve self-awareness, decision-making, coordination, and conflict management skills; increase employee engagement; and offer opportunities for employee growth and development.

For six years, Jolie Hauptert and her team at US Bank have been volunteering for the Sugar Bush Golf Classic, hosting the popular “Miss Sugar Bush” game on one of the contest holes. Not only does the US Bank crew have fun, but they also raise more than \$1,000 each year with the game. They have also participated in our Giving Tuesday celebration, providing a volunteer-hosted holiday party – full of music, crafts and activities - at one of our group homes. Over the years,

US Bank has become a valuable volunteer partner. Recently, Hattie Larlham connected with Starbucks on several projects as part of Starbucks’ Global Month of Service. Sixteen store managers, administrative managers and employees from around the region worked as a team to paint one of our group homes in Cuyahoga Falls; they repainted a kitchen, living room, long hallway, bathroom and entry way, making the home a nicer place for the residents. Another Starbucks group put a fresh coat of paint on the walls at our Middleburg Heights Constant Companions location. The Starbucks location at the Global Health Innovation Center in Cleveland invited our Constant Companions participants for a shared learning experience - the Starbucks employees showed our participants how to make their signature beverages, and Hattie Larlham staff taught them the importance of eye contact when interacting with people with intellectual disabilities. Our relationship with Starbucks is exciting, and we hope to expand it in the future. Volunteering is an important aspect

of our programs, providing an opportunity for the people we serve to develop new relationships and enjoy new experiences, all while providing a meaningful encounter for the volunteers. If your company would like to volunteer with Hattie Larlham, contact Lauri Molnar, Volunteer Coordinator and Community Liaison, at (330) 760-3393.

THANK YOU

Thank you to our donors and supporters for creating opportunities for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Donor lists for gifts \$249 and under, and memorial and tribute gifts for 2018 will be available in our online Focus newsletter in March 2019.

Donations to Hattie Larlham can be made using the secure donation form on our website, or you can send a check made out to the Hattie Larlham Foundation to:

Hattie Larlham
9772 Diagonal Road
Mantua, Ohio 44255

CELEBRATING GOOD NEIGHBORS

18th Annual
Rudolph H. Garfield
Circle of Caring

Saturday
October 20, 2018



The 18th annual Rudolph H. Garfield Circle of Caring is Sat., Oct. 20 at Signature of Solon. Presented by The Alpha Group, the 2018 Circle of Caring will benefit the babies, children and adults with developmental disabilities at Hattie Larlham.



Back row, left-right: Joseph Kotkowski, Ben Kotkowski, Ross Kotkowski, Steve Chek III
Seated: Larry Kotkowski, Ron Kotkowski

Honoring the Kotkowski family of Lakeside Sand & Gravel

This year's event will honor the Kotkowski Family of Lakeside Sand & Gravel. Longtime neighbors of Hattie Larlham, the Kotkowskis and their family-owned company have been generous supporters of our mission. Through personal giving, corporate sponsorship, and third-party fundraising events, the Kotkowski family and Lakeside Sand & Gravel have helped Hattie Larlham grow and thrive since the very beginning.

Owner Ron Kotkowski currently serves on the Hattie Larlham Board of Directors, and their family hosts an annual Open House at their site to benefit Hattie Larlham.

Their company operations are located directly behind the Hattie Larlham Center for Children with Disabilities in Mantua, and they are truly the very definition of Good Neighbors.

We hope you can join us as we celebrate the Kotkowski Family and Lakeside Sand & Gravel at the 2018 Circle of Caring.

Tickets and sponsorship info available at
www.hattielarlham.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 20 Circle of Caring
Nov. 28 Giving Tuesday

For more information about Hattie Larlham events, visit www.hattielarlham.org.

ABOUT THE COVER: Hattie Larlham resident Aaron smiles over the side of his new bed. One great feature of the new beds is the adjustable height. When Aaron wants to rest, his bed can be lowered and the mattress can be adjusted to a perfectly comfortable position. Then, when Aaron wants to sit up and relax to watch his favorite TV shows, staff can simply raise the bed and adjust the mattress so Aaron sits up comfortably. Because the bed height is adjustable, caregivers do not have to reach too high or too low to take care of a resident, they too simply adjust the bed to meet their needs, allowing for a more efficient process.

ABOUT THE AGENCY: Hattie Larlham is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating opportunities, advancing the community and influencing change for 1,700 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Your contributions allow Hattie Larlham to provide medical, recreational, work training and residential services to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

The Focus newsletter is produced by Hattie Larlham. Photographs provided by Hattie Larlham.



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