



press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On the Table: UCP Seguin's 100 Stories of Philanthropy

Redefining Philanthropy with the Chicago Community Trust and MB Financial Bank

(Cicero, IL) UCP Seguin has embarked on a new year-long project designed to highlight stories of philanthropy: **"On the Table: UCP Seguin's 100 Stories of Philanthropy"**. UCP Seguin is partnering with The Chicago Community Trust, the region's community foundation, helping to commemorate its centennial and celebrate the most philanthropic region in the nation. MB Financial Bank, which recently celebrated its own centennial, has agreed to join the Trust as "co-presenter" for UCP Seguin's efforts.

The "On the Table" campaign is designed to convene donors – both financial and in-kind including volunteers – in small groups to share their own compelling stories of giving to a cause. Those featured are community donors, family members, Board members, staff, program participants with disabilities, and others – a whole range of "philanthropists" who have given their treasure, talents, and time at various levels, large and small.

Continuing the series of informal conversations, UCP Seguin supporters gathered at US Cellular Field on June 8th articulating their motivations for philanthropy. Included among these friends of UCP Seguin were, from Elmhurst and formerly Oak Park, Steve Kirby, past Vice President of the Board, and members of his family, who have been major fundraisers and supporters of the UCP Seguin cause. Attending from River Forest and also formerly Oak Park, Pat Parker, was former UCP Seguin staff member, sister of Steve Kirby, and with her late husband Jerry the parent of Dan who is served by UCP Seguin. UCP Seguin's Kirby-Parker House group home in River Forest was named in their honor in recognition of their significant contributions. Also attending from Oak Park were Dawn Caden and her husband Dr. Brian Caden. Dawn is a former Board Member and they are parents to UCP Seguin participant Peter, who was also present for the festivities. Fellow residents of Oak Park Joe and Joan Geoghegan attended as well. Joe is a past Vice President of the Board, and along with their family have been longtime supporters of people with disabilities. Richard Smith, longtime Oak Park resident and his son Rick, who is served by UCP Seguin, also joined the event. Along with his late wife Rose Mr. Smith has financially supported UCP Seguin while advocating for and helping to increase services for people with disabilities.

River Forest resident John Miniutti participated as well. John, who was joined by his daughter Michele and son-in-law Michael Joubert of Oak Park, is a UCP Seguin Foundation Board Member, and parent to the late Fritz Miniutti who had developmental disabilities. Mr. Miniutti and his family have been generous donors to UCP Seguin and advocates of people with disabilities. Sophie Winn, of Cicero, and her daughter Maria Winn, of Chicago, were present to share their stories of philanthropy. Sophie and Maria, mother and sister respectively to UCP Seguin participant John who also attended, are longtime and stalwart supporters of UCP Seguin programs and special events. Hailing from Oak Park, Elmwood Park and other western suburbs, the

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Parenti family was well-represented at this event, led by Deb Parenti with her daughter Addy, who is served by UCP Seguin. The entire Parenti family organizes fundraisers and advocates on behalf of individuals with disabilities like Addy. Making the event possible was the Illinois Sports Facilities Authority, owners of US Cellular Field, with their donation of a Diamond Suite to watch the Chicago White Sox take on the Houston Astros. The ISFA has generously supported UCP Seguin for many years with these generous donations, making further fundraising and “friend-raising” events possible.

For the next year, in coordination with The Trust and MB Financial, UCP Seguin is convening monthly “On the Table” events at locations throughout its footprint of services. As many as 10 to 30 individuals – some to share their stories of giving, others as guests – are expected to participate in each “On the Table” gathering. The events serve to recognize individuals for their generosity, while providing to the public compelling stories of philanthropy that may stir them to similar action. UCP Seguin is publicizing these stories through multiple means, from our website to social media, from press releases to publications and e-blasts.

As UCP Seguin President and CEO John Voit stated, “UCP Seguin is pleased to be a partner in this effort with The Chicago Community Trust, and to celebrate its 100 years of being the foremost philanthropic institution in the Greater Chicago area, and among the most impactful in the entire country.” Voit affirmed MB Financial Bank as “vital to the well-being of our communities” through its “wide-ranging and top-notch financial services and dedication to charitable giving”. “The philanthropists we honor today and through the next year through the On the Table campaign,” continued Voit, “are sterling examples of how the impulse to give contributes to the greater good of our society.”

As the year unfolds the organization looks forward to sharing how many “Friends of UCP Seguin” have shown their kindness, and in re-defining philanthropy across the many wonderful ways it can be expressed.

You can learn more about “On the Table: UCP Seguin’s 100 Stories of Philanthropy” and view the “On the Table” video by visiting the UCP Seguin website: www.ucpseguin.org

UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit human services agency dedicated to enriching the lives of people with disabilities. Providing programs and services from birth to old age, UCP Seguin helps children and adults with disabilities achieve their potential, advance their independence and act as full members of the community. Its programs include innovative training and education, family support, employment and life-skills training, and residential services.

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