

Your generosity will be doubled with a **\$150,000** CHALLENGE MATCH



Dear Friends,

**I'll cut to the chase—you can help people with disabilities live life without limits, and your generosity today can go twice as far through a matching gift.** A group of generous supporters have come together to match gifts made before December 31st. Your gift and others will be matched, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$150,000.

**Your gift will help people who are living life without limits—like Richard, who has worked at UCP Seguin for the past 25 years.**

If you walk into our offices in Cicero, you can find Richard greeting visitors and staff. But even if you've met him, you may not know that our relationship with his family began many years before that, when Richard was just three years old.

Richard was born in 1966, at a time when parents were told that their children with Down syndrome would be best served in an institution. Richard's parents, Rose and Richard Smith, refused. **His parents knew their home was the best place for Richard, and he lived there until last Thanksgiving Day, when his father was hospitalized after a fall in their home.**

The family of three found the best options for Richard. He attended Seguin School, which provided education at a time when children with disabilities were unable to attend public schools. (Thankfully, laws changed in 1975, and Richard and others were able to receive special education within public schools.) When Richard was nine, his parents helped found West Suburban Special Recreation Association (WSSRA), which gave Richard a chance to play sports like basketball, softball, and bowling.

As an adult, Richard has found meaningful employment at UCP Seguin, sorting and delivering mail and helping with other administrative tasks. **Mr. and Mrs. Smith continued to be highly involved and ensured that their son's every need was taken care of—but they unfortunately made few plans as to what would happen if Richard could no longer live with them, even after Rose's death in 2008.**



**YOU CAN GIVE TODAY AT [UCPSEGUIN.ORG](http://UCPSEGUIN.ORG)**



\$250     \$100     \$50     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Your gift will be doubled if you give by December 31st!*

My check, payable to UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago, is enclosed

Please charge my gift to my:     Visa     MasterCard     Discover     American Express

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / CSV \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required with credit card transaction) \_\_\_\_\_

By providing your email address, you agree to receive occasional email updates from UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago. We do not rent, sell, or exchange donor information with any individuals, organizations, or corporations.

Your gift to UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago (FEIN 36-2894174) is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.



I would like to help individuals like Richard live life without limits!



«Remit Code»



**When Mr. Smith entered the hospital on Thanksgiving Day of last year, Richard was unable to stay at their home by himself.** There was no emergency plan in place—Mr. Smith had always felt as though his son’s care was entirely his responsibility, even as he turned 90.

**Richard’s situation could have been dire.** We’re incredibly grateful for Richard’s relationship with UCP Seguin—without it, we wouldn’t have been able to work so quickly to support him, and an already difficult situation may have become a true emergency.

Fortunately, UCP Seguin was able to find an emergency placement in a group home, and Richard was assigned a case manager. **Last December, his father passed away, and his son’s placement became permanent. We’ve worked diligently with Richard to ensure that he receives the services he needs and that he’s happy in his new home.**

Despite everything, Richard has maintained his sunny disposition and passion for sports (he’s even gearing up for yet another basketball season with WSSRA). He has a strong community here at UCP Seguin. He’s had a chance to travel, make new friends, and learn life skills that will help him be more independent, like doing his own laundry.

**Richard’s story is unfortunately common. Every day, families face difficult decisions and situations as parents and other caregivers age, but every day, UCP Seguin supports these families so individuals with disabilities can live life without limits, now and in the future, even as their circumstances change.**

We’re only able to offer this support because of generous people like you. **You can help families like Richard and his parents—families who have always wanted the very best for their family members with disabilities but who need support as caregivers age.**

The need is urgent, and we’ll put your gift to work right away to support individuals with disabilities so they can live a life without limits. **Remember, your contribution will be doubled thanks to a generous match.**

With warm wishes for a happy holiday season,

Joseph Mengoni  
President/CEO



**YOU CAN GIVE TODAY AT [UCPSEGUIN.ORG](http://UCPSEGUIN.ORG)**

**Send your holiday wishes to the UCP Seguin community!**

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