

Winter 2010

BUILDING A [Capital Campaign] BETTER LIFE

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Capital Campaign Status Report

as of December 31, 2009



Seguin participant Jeffrey Difiglio enjoys watering plants as part of his job at Seguin Gardens & Gifts.

Seguin Gardens & Gifts Bursts Into Bloom Thanks to Donors' Generosity

Dreams do come true! In May of last year, just as the spring planting season took root, Seguin Gardens & Gifts opened its doors. This project had been several years in the planning, but construction of this beautiful new retail facility and greenhouse needed a significant boost from Seguin donors to make this dream a reality. Thanks to a final stream of gifts, The Floyd & Louise Perotto Garden & Gift Center is proudly open for business, providing jobs and horticultural therapy for individuals with disabilities and other special needs.



Seguin participant Rose Williams is assisted by Seguin Greenhouse Specialist Jessica Johnson, as they plant perennials to beautify Seguin Gardens & Gifts.

Since last May's grand opening, Seguin Gardens & Gifts has offered a wide array of plants and garden supplies in its well-appointed greenhouse, as well as seasonal products, flowers and other gift items in its handsome retail gift shop. Preparations are now fast and furious for the upcoming spring planting season. As Julie Lerch, Seguin's Director of Marketing and Business Development says, "We are ready to welcome our customers, old and new, to bring life to their lawns and gardens as the winter snow finally thaws." This winter Seguin participants have been busily planting from seeds, bulbs, and cuttings through our



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Julie Lerch

Laurie Heenan
Designer



Seguin participant LaQuita Terry, who is blind, works with Seguin Job Coach Alan Rodriguez to prepare the containers for propagating plants.

propagation program in The Coleman Foundation Horticultural Therapy Center. For example, Seguin participants, with the assistance of staff, have planted hundreds of tulip, daffodil, and hyacinth bulbs that will be ready for sale for Easter and Mother’s Day. Our customers will be able to attest to the tender loving care of these precious plants provided by individuals with disabilities.

During this year, participants in Horticulture Therapy will be growing vegetables and herbs in community and home gardens to grow fresh produce that will be sold at our “Traveling Store” every Sunday. In addition, Seguin participants are partnering with the Oak Park Conservatory, growing snapdragons and other plants that will be sold at Seguin Gardens & Gifts. These activities will cut our costs of doing business and provide the best quality plants at the best possible prices to the community.

While the greenhouse will be the focal point of much of the sales activity this spring, we also encourage you to check out our retail gift shop. This part of Seguin Gardens & Gifts is stocked with a beautiful assortment of items suitable for gift-giving to your family, friends and business associates. Know that when you do business with Seguin Gardens & Gifts you are helping to fulfill Seguin’s mission: supporting persons with disabilities and other special needs, enabling them to be productive, valued members of society.

To learn more about Seguin Gardens & Gifts, check out their web-site at SeguinGifts.com or call (708) 222-2772.

The Searle Funds At The Chicago Community Trust Make Major \$50,000 Grant To Seguin

Seguin Services is thrilled to announce the receipt of a \$50,000 grant from The Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust. This grant is dedicated to our Capital Campaign to be used on the final phase of Carr Center construction, including creation of nine state-of-the-art Community Employment Alternatives and Community Training classrooms. These rooms will be designed to provide vocational skills and job training experiences for the more than 300 low-income adults with developmental disabilities these programs serve annually.

The complete renovation of the nine classrooms is an important part of our Building a Better Life initiative. This multi-year project includes major renovations of all three floors of the 45,000 square-foot Carr Center, completely reconfigured front and rear entrances, and the addition of the adjacent structure, Seguin Gardens & Gifts which provides additional jobs and horticultural therapy for adults with developmental disabilities. The first and second floor renovations provide environments new and expanded services to the adults and children with disabilities in the following spaces: the Fitness Center, the Nursing Center, the Snoezelen Sensory Room, the Music and Art Therapy Room, the Computer Learning Lab, the daytime Senior Center, the GiftWorks Employment Program Production Rooms, and the Portillo’s Learning Kitchen & Cafeteria.

This grant was part of \$500,000 in matching funds that The Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust made for United Way member agencies in the south and western Chicago suburbs. With so many agencies facing trying times today, we are deeply grateful to The Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust for granting our request. These new facilities will enable Seguin to look forward to the future, well prepared to meet the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities, as we provide top-notch community employment and training services in safe, state-of-the-art facilities.

First Annual Jerry Parker Memorial White Sox Outing Benefits Seguin

The community of Seguin is made stronger by the loving involvement of parents and family members in the lives of the people we serve. One such highly involved parent was Jerry Parker, dad to Seguin participant Dan Parker. Jerry gave his all to life and family, especially to his son Dan. But Jerry’s generous spirit extended further to volunteering his “extra” time to coach the Seguin Penguins Special Olympics basketball team. For his outstanding efforts above and beyond the call of duty, Jerry received Seguin’s prestigious “Special Assistance” award in 2001. So when Jerry passed away in summer of 2008, the entire Seguin community felt the pain of his loss.

One individual who particularly felt Jerry’s loss was Jerry’s brother-in-law Steve Kirby, who incidentally also serves as Seguin Board Vice President. Last season, Seguin Services happily received the donation of a Diamond Suite at U.S. Cellular Field through the auspices of Joel Herter and Wolf Financial Management, for a Chicago White Sox game on Monday, August 17, 2009, as the Sox played the Kansas City Royals. As it was, Jerry Parker had been a longtime White Sox fan. Upon Jerry’s passing Kirby had wanted to conduct a special event at a White Sox game to honor his memory. So given this opportunity, Steve organized the First Annual Jerry Parker Memorial Sox Outing. Seguin raised \$5,750 for the Capital Campaign, through ticket sales to twenty of Jerry’s family and friends who attended, a 50/50 raffle, and a White Sox memorabilia raffle. On top of his outstanding efforts to organize the event, Steve also donated his \$250 in 50/50 raffle winnings back to Seguin.

In addition to contributing the Diamond Suite, Joel Herter and Wolf Financial Management added to the evening by donating the food and beverages for the event also. Herter also was able to arrange for White Sox Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf to pay a visit to the suite. Herter and Wolf’s generosity truly made this fun event possible. Special arrangements were also made for a visit by Southpaw, the White Sox mascot.

Overall, it was quite a day for the attendees. The White Sox were victorious over the Royals. Seguin benefited from the generosity of the many Friends of Seguin that made this event possible. And everyone relished the many fond memories of our friend Jerry Parker. Steve Kirby, in the meantime, is making plans for the Second Annual Jerry Parker Memorial Sox Outing, tentatively scheduled for June 4. The spirit of Jerry Parker—and of his generosity to Seguin—will continue to endure.



Pictured left to right: Sean Parker (Jerry and Pat Parker’s son), Pat Parker (Jerry Parker’s wife), Jerry Reinsdorf (owner of the Chicago White Sox), and Steve Kirby (Seguin Board member and Pat Parker’s brother).



Pictured: John Voit, Seguin President/CEO, with Southpaw, Chicago White Sox mascot.

Building a Better Life...

The Chicago Board Of Trade Foundation Donates \$43,000 To Capital Campaign

Seguin is greatly pleased to announce that The Chicago Board of Trade Foundation has donated another \$10,000 to Seguin Services for our Capital Campaign. This grant will be used for Vocational Training and Community Employment classrooms on the Carr Center’s second floor. These classrooms will benefit persons with disabilities by providing state-of-the-art environments for their training as they seek to find employment. We deeply appreciate this grant since it directly correlates to our mission to enable individuals with disabilities to live and work just as others within the community do. As a result, this grant will have a positive impact on many lives and the community as a whole for years to come.

This grant does not stand alone. The Chicago Board of Trade Foundation has been a faithful friend to the people with disabilities whom Seguin Services serves for many years. Since 2005 they have given \$49,500 in total, of which \$43,000 was given to the Capital Campaign for a variety of specific purposes including: the Front Entrance renovations, the Senior Services Rooms, the Snoezelen Room, the Seguin Gardens & Gifts construction, and now the Vocational Training and Community Employment classrooms. The Chicago Board of Trade Foundation has been a mainstay with other individuals and foundations in meeting our need to raise these funds to renovate the Carr Center. Their commitment to Seguin and people with disabilities we serve is deeply appreciated—and for this we thank you!

In addition, we would particularly like to thank Charles P. Carey (CBOT Foundation Chair), Ellen Paparelli (CBOT Foundation program officer), CBOT leader and Seguin sponsor David P. Brennan, and Board member Don Bartecki for their particular help as we sought these grants from The Chicago Board of Trade Foundation. Their efforts over a period of years have made obtaining these grants possible. Thank you for all you do!

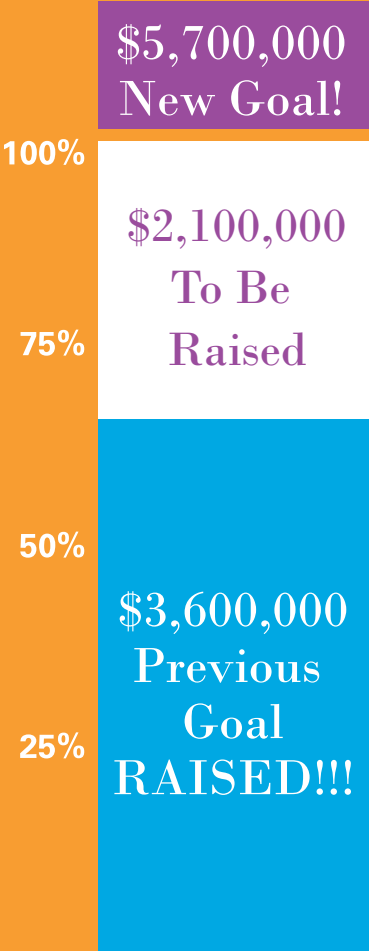


SEGUIN SERVICES CELEBRATION GALA

CARNIVALE

Unmasking a Year of Change

SAVE THE DATE | JUNE 10, 2010



Help us finish our Capital Campaign *Now*

Be a part of the Capital Campaign Honor Roll! This is your chance to help to individuals with disabilities and other special needs.

For more information on how to donate, visit www.seguin.org or contact Dawneen Suriano at 708-222-4251.



Seguin Board Pulls Together

Building Better Lives

Five years ago Seguin’s Board of Directors faced a monumental task. The Carr Center, the base of day services for Seguin participants as well as the home office for Seguin, was worn and weathered from years of constant use. It required a major overhaul, especially in the program areas in which services are delivered. Seguin also set its sights on constructing a new Garden Center, to provide a state-of-the-art area in which to provide horticultural therapy for the people we serve, and to provide productive meaningful jobs in a retail environment.

To meet these major capital needs, the Seguin Board embarked on a Capital Campaign, entitled “Building a Better Life”, to raise the millions of dollars needed for these essential improvements. In the interim, Seguin has raised nearly \$3.6 million toward the \$5.7 million goal. But the Seguin Board has had a large role in helping us reach that goal.

As part of our efforts to raise these needed funds, the Board of Directors of Seguin Services and the Seguin staff have been solicited annually to donate to this worthy effort to build better lives for the individuals with disabilities. Our Board of Directors over these years has included: Joseph Pedersen, Steve Kirby, Stuart Gaines, Eric Hardman, Don Bartecki, Dawn Caden, Terry Carr, Bill Coats, Alex Godinez, Jeff Gravely, Ron Kenny, Beth Mannino, Jim Napolitan, Maureen Rurka, Maria Castro, Michael Grice, Genny Emerson, Greg McConnell, Joanne Messina and Ralph Harast. A goal was set for the Board of Directors to give \$45,000 to the Building a Better Life Capital Campaign for the past five years...and they have exceeded that goal. To date, they have contributed \$45,465 of their personal treasure to this worthy cause. Equally as important, Board members have used their personal and business connections as well as matching employer contributions to reap an additional \$316,000 for the campaign. The Board leveraged these additional funds and donations-in-kind through foundations, corporations and other individuals. The combined benefit of the Board of Directors’ own donations and resulting solicitations during these five years is more than \$360,000.

The Board members’ efforts and the resulting funds are deeply appreciated because of improvements we have been able to complete as well as major renovations we have yet to achieve. The result is state-of-the-art environments for the people we serve. The Board’s efforts have allowed Seguin to be the pacesetter agency in the Chicagoland area, providing services that integrate, enrich and empower people with disabilities and other special needs.

“BUILDING BRIDGES TO THE FUTURE” RAFFLE

*To benefit the partnership of Seguin Services & Park Lawn
Helping students with special needs to transition successfully into adulthood*



Seguin Services and Park Lawn are registered
501C3 charitable organizations.

- 1ST Prize:** Fully Restored 1965 Ford Mustang
- 2ND Prize:** Men’s Rolex Explorer II 40mm steel watch
valued at \$5,000
- 3RD Prize:** \$2,500
- 4TH Prize:** Shibumi X-24 mixed media artwork
by John Baughman - valued at \$1,600
- 5TH Prize:** \$1,000

\$50 per ticket

Winner to be drawn on September 15, 2010
during a reception at 6:30 pm
Seguin Gardens & Gifts 5621 W 31st Street.
Winner need not be present



The Winner is required to: (1) Be 18 years of age to participate; (2) Print clearly on the winning ticket, if unable to be read another ticket will be selected; (3) Required to provide an approved, current, valid photo ID at time of receiving prize; (4) Responsible for all applicable license fees, taxes, registration and insurance; (5) Seguin Services and Park Lawn reserve the right to make final decisions of any disputes; (6) Seguin Services and Park Lawn reserve the right to modify or cancel this promotional event at anytime; (7) Contributions are voluntary and not required to win.

Seguin Staff Strive To Achieve Our Mission Through Giving To The Capital Campaign



Through their outstanding daily efforts as well as their innovative methods for delivering service, Seguin staff members are dedicated to fulfilling our mission: to support adults and children with disabilities and other special needs, enabling them to be productive, valued members of society. Seguin employees have always been known for their generosity of spirit and dedication to the Seguin cause. But staff have done much more to demonstrate their commitment—such as “giving back” to Seguin, by contributing financial support for the “Building a Better Life” Capital Campaign.

Over the past five years, Seguin Services Staff have donated nearly \$35,000 to the Capital Campaign. For the new calendar year 2010, employees have pledged an additional \$8700, such that their total support for the Capital Campaign has reached \$43,415.

Note that Seguin staff have also been regular and generous contributors to our programs and services. Annually Seguin can count on a combined total of nearly \$20,000 per year in direct employee contributions to programs and capital. We are quite proud of the commitment that our staff has shown toward the agency’s efforts to build a better life for individuals with disabilities and other special needs we serve. Their compassion is readily apparent as they tangibly showing their trust and support for Seguin. This speaks volumes about the kind of persons our employees are, about the confidence they place in Seguin, and about their desire to achieve our mission together.

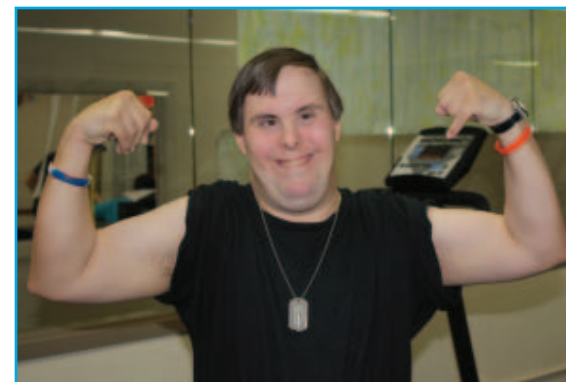
Thank You To All The Seguin Staff Who Supported Our Mission Through The Years By Donating To The Capital Campaign!

...for Program Participants

Seguin Opens New Fitness Center

Individuals with Disabilities work to be “Fit for Life” through Community Generosity

All of us know how good we feel when we have exercised and are strengthening our bodies. Being physically active is one of the most important steps that a person of any age can take to improve their health. They say it is the endorphins our bodies make when we exercise that make us happy. This is true for individuals with physical and developmental disabilities as well. So Seguin is especially pleased to announce the opening of the new Fitness Center – also known as “Grand Central Fitness” – that was constructed as part of the second floor renovation of the Carr Center. This space was one of the most joyfully anticipated spaces under construction. Our participants have happily jumped at the chance to “get in shape” and are enthusiastically using the equipment and services that are being provided today.



Seguin participant Richard Smith proudly flexes the muscles he has developed using the new Fitness Center.



Personal trainer Julia M of The Wellness Pros (center) leads Seguin participants JoAnn Wilcher and Keith Ritter in a group class at the new Fitness Center.

This unique and special area was made possible through the many generous donations, most importantly from President Larry Dominick and The Town of Cicero, Lincoln Middle School of Berwyn, Illinois, the John and Kathy Voit Family, and The Arthur Foundation. Each of these donors wanted their donations to be used for the Fitness Center, and to benefit the ongoing health needs of the individuals we serve.

The activities conducted in the Fitness Center are part of Seguin’s overall “Fit for Life” initiative. The purpose of our new Fit for Life program is to promote the maximum possible state of health – complete physical, mental, and social well-being--for the nearly 600 adults and children with disabilities we serve annually. The Seguin Fitness Center is equipped with new, modern exercise equipment and our participants receive high quality instruction and assistance in group fitness classes provided by The Wellness Pros. The Wellness Pros, a Downers Grove-based non-profit organization, has nationally certified and dedicated personal trainers who specialize in working with adults with special needs and limited physical abilities so that they will gain strength, stamina and the tools to become more self-reliant. Now our participants are receiving regular group lessons in the fitness center as part of our focus on improving their overall health.

In addition, family members can pay for added one-on-one personal trainer services to benefit their family members. For example, one of Seguin’s participants with cerebral palsy has benefited from this additional training. Now, for the first time in fifteen years, he is able to stand unaided for five minutes. This is a great step forward for this individual, while also showing the possibilities of what can happen for many others served by Seguin. For further information about this unique opportunity, contact Seguin’s Terry Porter at 708-863-3803 or The Wellness Pros’ Bill Cummings at 630-541-5433.



Seguin participant Andrea Straney enthusiastically shows you that she is “getting stronger and healthier”.



Seguin Gardens & Gifts Spring Sale

Sale Begins April 22

PLANTS

SIZE/AMOUNT

PRICE

Flat of Annuals & Vegetables	48 plants	\$14.52
4 Pack Annuals & Vegetables	4 plants	\$1.49
Vegetables	4" Pot	\$1.79
Herbs (Seguin Grown)	4" Pot	\$2.99
Geranium	4" Pot	\$2.49
Fancy Annuals & Accent Plants	4" Pots	\$2.49
Proven Winners & Special Annuals	4.5" Pot	\$3.49
Hanging Baskets (Seguin Grown & Seguin Made)	10" Basket	\$12.99
Grasses, Climbers, Fancy Annuals	5" Pot	\$4.99
Premium Hanging Basket Combos (Seguin Made)	10" and 12" Baskets	\$18.99
Geranium	10" Planter	\$18.99
1 Gallon Tropical Foliage	6" and 1 Gallon Pots	\$7.29

5621 W. 31st Street | Cicero, Illinois 60804 | 708.222.2772 | www.SeguinGifts.com



Seguin Services, a charitable not-for-profit agency serving metropolitan Chicago, strives to integrate, enrich, and empower people with disabilities. Seguin lives its mission of "supporting adults and children with disabilities and other special needs, enabling them to be productive, valued members of society."



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enrich
empower

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