# SPOTLIGHT ON UCPSEQUIN of Greater Chicago

# **SPRINGING AHEAD INTO THE**

...FROM THE DARKNESS OF THE PANDEMIC

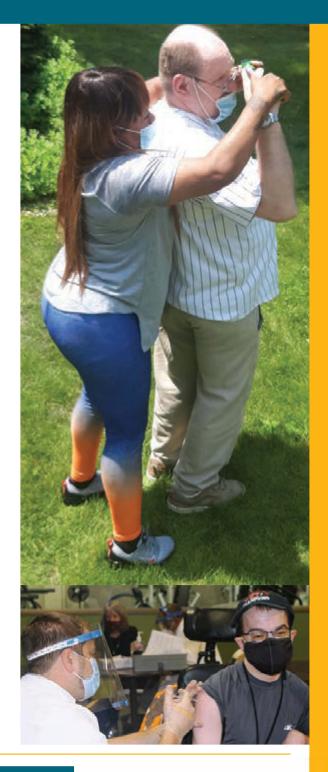
#### What a year it's been.

Like everyone across the globe, UCP Seguin has been presented with a challenge of epic proportions: the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since the pandemic struck in March 2020, UCP Seguin, with unprecedented support from our community of friends, has responded in many resourceful and innovative ways to keep our participants, staff, and foster parents safe, healthy, active, and connected.

- We temporarily closed our seven Community Day Services (CDS) sites in the Greater Chicago area, but recently began reopening them with fewer participants in each, following strict safety protocols.
- Dedicated staff and adult foster parents have provided around-the-clock supports to individuals who reside in our Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) group homes. Some staff heroically moved into homes to care for individuals infected with the virus.
- As schools have closed or reopened in hybrid models, foster children have continued to receive nurturing care from our foster parents.

Photos: Top right: Michael enjoys the great outdoors while learning about photography as staff get creative with lessons. Bottom right: Andrew gets his first dose of the Pfizer COVID19 Vaccine.



**UCP Seguin Springs Ahead into the Light –** How You Can Help (see back cover)





Life without limits for people with disabilities"

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- Staff have provided a range of services medical monitoring, behavioral supports, life skills training, recreational experiences, enrichment classes, transition services, and more – remotely through telecommunications.
- We have continued on-site job coaching for those individuals employed in "essential" service work, making sure that participants practice proper social distancing and hygiene on the job.
- Our Infinitec assistive technology and training initiative has provided ever-expanding online learning and training resources, including many related to disease prevention and management, to educators, students, parents, and adult service providers.
- Seguin Gardens & Gifts converted to taking online orders with curbside pick-up, then re-opening for business under social distancing protocols. Seguin Auto Center has systematically cleaned agency and other vehicles. Food Hub staff have received food donations and dutifully distributed them to our group and foster homes.
- We have secured large quantities of personal protective equipment for use by our participants, staff, and foster parents, as well as disinfectant and other supplies for cleaning our homes and day services sites.
- We have set up several COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites, with most participants, staff, and foster parents now having been fully vaccinated.

Photos: Top to bottom: With Community Day Services locations temporarily closed, Jeff stays engaged with technology; Seguin Gardens & Gifts staff adapt to COVID-19 restrictions by moving online, fulfilling orders for customers and offering curbside pickup; Dan enjoys a video call with a friend as staff go above and beyond to keep UCP Seguin participants connected.

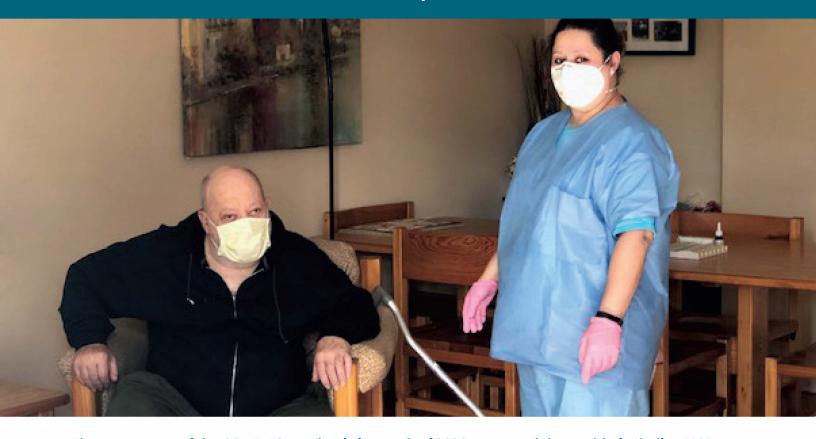
These and numerous other emergency activities and services have been made possible through many special grants and donations provided to us by generous public and private sources. With this support, our participants, staff, and foster parents are not just surviving. They have sprung from the darkness of the pandemic into the light of renewal, a "life without limits".

In this 2020 Annual Report, you will see stories that exemplify the strength and resilient spirit that make UCP Seguin special.

## **UCP SEGUIN CAREGIVERS -**

### "FIRST RESPONDERS" FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

### Ana DiazDeLeon Steps into the Breach



The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020 presented the world – including UCP Seguin – with a major life-and-death test. Individuals with disabilities supported by UCP Seguin were (and continue to be) especially vulnerable to the virus.

A year ago, Moe – a 78-year-old individual served in UCP Seguin's Intermittent CILA program - tested positive for COVID-19. He had been receiving periodic drop-in support from UCP Seguin staff in his own apartment in Roselle. After a brief stint in the hospital, he was being released to his home, but it simply was not safe for him to go back to his apartment, where he needed more intensive monitoring and support, and where he could also expose others to his illness.

UCP Seguin stepped up, setting aside one of its group homes for isolating and caring for individuals served and diagnosed with COVID-19. This site is among more than 70 group homes operated by UCP Seguin. Multiple heroic Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) have been providing services on a 24/7 basis to hundreds of other individuals with disabilities who reside in these group homes.

In this instance, Ana DiazDeLeon, a stellar UCP Seguin DSP, was ready and willing to move in with Moe during his quarantine.

The fear of being diagnosed with COVID-19 provokes anxiety in all of us. But the direct support professionals who cared for this person

sprang into action making sure that Moe had a safe, comfortable environment in which to quarantine. They shopped for, cooked and packaged several days' worth of meals with the individual's favorite foods, stocked the house with all the personal protective equipment (PPE) they could locate, re-designed his bedroom to include an easy chair, telephone, television and iPad so the individual could FaceTime with friends, and even installed a doorbell to ensure that he could easily contact staff when assistance was needed. And with Ana around, Moe was in compassionate, caring, professional hands. He quickly returned to his normal jovial self: "I like the house and I love the food!" After the requisite stay, he was able to return to his apartment, while continuing to practice social distancing, wear PPE, and adhere to proper hygiene. Moe has since received his COVID-19 vaccination through clinics conducted by UCP Seguin with area vaccination professionals.

Ana and other UCP Seguin DSPs have gone above and beyond in a time of chaos and crisis to offer comfort to everyone they care for, even with their own lives at risk. At a time when we have needed them most, they have truly been "first responders" and "unsung heroes".

# WE TOOK THE SHOT!

The new year brought hope that soon the darkest days of the pandemic would be behind us. UCP Seguin participants, staff, foster parents, and family caregivers all began receiving their COVID-19 vaccinations in January 2021. The Oak Park Public Health Department got the ball rolling for several staff, foster parents and persons served.

In February we hosted our first, and largest, vaccination clinic at the Carr Center with technicians from Walgreen's administering the vaccines, paramedics on hand from the Cicero Fire Department, and dozens of dedicated volunteers assisting in this extremely well-organized event. Walgreen's has conducted several mass vaccination clinics at the Carr Center since then. Then starting in February, Chicago Internal Medicine Practice and Research (CIMPAR) has conducted several vaccination clinics at our CLIMB site in Villa Park.

Prior to these mass inoculations, UCP Seguin had been taking measure of the coronavirus through regular COVID-19 testing, initiated soon after the pandemic emerged last year. CEO John Voit preached a relentless mantra: "TESTING TESTING TESTING." And the UCP Seguin COVID-19 Task Force was up to the challenge, conducting regular tests on staff to detect any evidence of the virus and thereby mitigate its spread. This testing continues into spring 2021 for those yet to receive the vaccine.

By early April of this year, through our UCP Seguin team's amazing and dedicated work, we project that more than 3,000 vaccine doses will have been administered and over 1,800 individuals will have received at least their first dose, most of whom will have received their second dose. This mighty effort is putting us another step closer to resuming a more "normal" schedule of programs and services for the children and adults we serve.

Photos: Top to bottom: Juan gets his first dose of the Pfizer COVID19 Vaccine; Artavian Herred gets her first dose of the Moderna COVID19 Vaccine; Jessica gets her first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine; CEO John Voit takes the shot!



### **CARR FAMILY STEPS UP AGAIN**

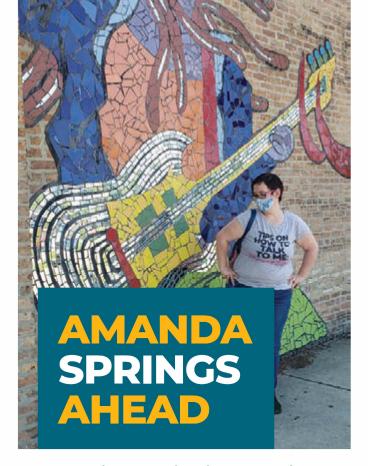
## Holiday Parade Brings the Joy of the Season to People with Disabilities

Pandemic restrictions might have prevented us from gathering together for the 49th Annual Cindy Carr Memorial Holiday Party for UCP Seguin but that didn't stop the Carr Family! In lieu of a party, the Carrs organized a fantastic Holiday Parade held on Saturday December 5th, 2020, featuring fire trucks, police vehicles, and Santa and Mrs. Claus on a trolley.



The parade brought joy to a unique holiday season for UCP Seguin participants, staff, and foster parents at the multiple UCP Seguin group homes in the eight suburban communities they visited. Neighbors and passers by were treated as well to the festive caravan.

Our heartfelt thanks to the patriarch Al Carr, his son (and UCP Seguin Board Treasurer) Terry, and Terry Jr (Mayor of McCook) – and ALL the Carr Family – for their incredible dedication to the cause of people with disabilities served by UCP Seguin. We extend our gratitude as well to the Village of McCook Fire Department and Police Department, and to Jolly Old Saint Nick and Mrs. Claus for brightening our day with the holiday spirit.



## from Social Isolation into the Light ...with Help From UCP Seguin

As COVID-19 emerged in March 2020, Amanda, resident of a UCP Seguin group home in Oak Park, was presented with a major dilemma. With a dual diagnosis of intellectual disabilities and bipolar disorder, she asked the question: how would she cope with challenges brought on by the pandemic?

Initially UCP Seguin was ordered to close its day services sites, including the Levinson Center in Oak Park where Amanda received life skills training and other services to promote community integration. She had to "shelter-in-place" in her group home. Amanda faced social isolation and the potential of worsening mental and physical health. UCP Seguin deployed day services staff to her group home to ensure around-the-clock provision of enrichment activities, therapy, and other interventions.

Using her iPad, Amanda has participated in remote Zoom video activities, such as cooking and fitness classes, conducted by day services staff. With assistance from Board Certified Behavior Analyst Dana Pavlik, Amanda has helped conduct a weekly class for other participants called "Fun Times With Dana: Let's Get Social!" In these classes, participants are presented with a basic understanding of the new norm and how best to cope with it.

With UCP Seguin support, Amanda has sprung ahead into the greater community, succeeding in overcoming the challenges of her dual disabilities and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Photo: Amanda shopping for Friday's Cooking Challenge at Pete's Market on Lake Street in Chicago, pictured by mural of "House of Rock."

# **BRIAN PROVES HIS VALUE**

# to the Community during the Pandemic, and to Himself ...As an Essential Worker

The coronavirus pandemic has taken center stage in these challenging times. Yet for UCP Seguin participant Brian R, an opportunity to do "essential work" has arisen to bring him closer to a life without limits.

At age 58 and served by UCP Seguin for the past eleven years, Brian has lived in one of our group homes, while also attending community day services at UCP Seguin's Carr Center. For several years Brian has worked at the Portillo's Learning Kitchen, preparing food for people at the Carr Center, and performing clean-up and other kitchen chores. Despite his skills, Brian was reluctant to try a job in a new community work environment. But UCP Seguin's Community Employment Services (CES) staff saw great potential in Brian. Starting early 2019, the CES team presented Brian with several chances to pursue a community job. He chose to stay put.

Then COVID-19 struck. In March 2020 the State of Illinois directed all community providers to close their day services centers. With the Carr Center now closed, Brian's Portillo's Learning Kitchen job was placed on hold. CES staff checked with Brian weekly on other job opportunities to pursue. In May Brian answered, "Yes, I'm ready to work." After an interview in June, Popeye's, a fast-food restaurant in Bridgeview, quickly offered him a part-time job in food preparation and dishwashing. Brian jumped at the chance. With UCP Seguin staff support, he learned to take the bus to his jobsite and "get the hang" of the job, especially in adhering to safe practices, wearing PPE, and preventing the spread of coronavirus. Brian has become an "essential" part of his employer's team...and is earning a nice paycheck too!

Despite the obstacles brought on by the pandemic, with the persistence, compassion, and heroic support of UCP Seguin's Employment services staff, Brian has made great strides in his pursuit of meaningful, productive work, and his ultimate goal: life without limits.









Photos on left side from top to bottom clockwise: Akil, Charles and Luis enjoy some fresh air and sunshine while maintaining social distancing; Tom, a Civil War buff, takes in the sites at Cantigny Park; Andy has some laughs with his staff Mary as they celebrate his birthday; Senior Services Coordinator Marysia becomes a hair stylist during quarantine by giving cuts to participants like Stephanie; Paul celebrated his 50th Birthday in style with housemates Nick, Michael and John and a birthday parade from staff; Richard has fully adapted to his new job at UCP Seguin, taking the temperature of everyone who enters the Carr Center and Like many of us, Evan went digital to stay connected with family and friends.

Photos on right side from top to bottom clockwise: CLIMB participants Shirley and Grace enjoyed some socially distant Yoga along the Prairie Path in Villa Park; The IL Natl Guard stepped up with multiple deliveries of much needed PPE; Joann learns how to make smoothies in a Zoom cooking class with UCP Seguin staff and UCP Seguin DSPs are truly essential, going above and beyond for the people we serve.

### **UCP SEGUIN GIVING SOCIETIES**

United Cerebral Palsy Seguin of Greater Chicago has created a number of societies to honor individuals who have provided significant support through their financial contributions for the persons with disabilities we serve. The gifts of these special donors have been instrumental in expanding and sustaining our innovative services. They have provided the capital investments needed to grow and maintain our many homes and program centers. Ultimately the abundant generosity of these contributors has enabled UCP Seguin to meet our mission, making it possible for people with disabilities to achieve their potential, advance their independence, and act as full members of the community. **RECENT ADDITIONS TO GIVING SOCIETIES ARE LISTED BELOW.** 

#### **HONOR ROLL OF VISIONARIES**

Members of the **Honor Roll of Visionaries** secure the future of United Cerebral Palsy Seguin of Greater Chicago by remembering us in their estate plans. There are many ways to do so: as beneficiary or alternate beneficiary of your Donor Advised Fund, retirement account or life insurance policy; or simply designating United Cerebral Palsy Seguin of Greater Chicago in your will or trust documents.

Please consult your legal and financial advisors about how best to support UCP Seguin while securing the maximum tax benefit for yourself. If you include UCP Seguin (FEIN 36-2894174) in your estate plan, please notify Dawneen Suriano at 708-222-4251.

Anonymous Donors (Three donors) Frank and Debra Catalano Marie Ogden Natalie Sodeika Lee S. Weiss

#### **CENTER CHAMPIONS**

The **Center Champions** are recognized for their generous gifts by having their names attached to one of UCP Seguin's Day Services Centers, including the Carr Center (our main building) and the Betty Scheck Senior Center.

There are still several Centers without names! If you would like to be a Center Champion, please contact Dawneen Suriano at 708-222-4251.

#### **HOUSEPROUD SOCIETY**

Members of the **HouseProud Society** are recognized for their generous gifts by having their names attached to one of our group Community Integrated Living Arrangement homes.

There are still plenty of houses without names! If you would like to join the HouseProud Society, please contact Dawneen Suriano at 708-222-4251.

Don and Mary Bartecki

Anthony and Estelle Nakroshis (in memory of Marion Joseph Filipiak, MD)

### **MEMORIALS**

Just over a year ago, the entire world changed overnight. The coronavirus pandemic has brought unprecedented challenges and changes to every corner of the globe. It has affected us all, and for some it has meant profound loss. Tragically, UCP Seguin experience the loss of three of our very own to COVID-19. We mourn with their families and friends, but we celebrate their lives and the impact they have made on our organization. UCP Seguin is better for having had these three special people in our lives.



Sharonda Armstrong, Home Support Specialist and Certified Nursing Assistant, began positively impacting the lives of people at UCP Seguin in 2011. She was part of a dynamic team of three providing intermittent support to UCP Seguin participants at Katherine Manor in Naperville, dedicating herself to the well-being of those in her care. Unfortunately, Sharonda contracted the coronavirus early in the pandemic and passed away three weeks later. The UCP Seguin family mourn the loss of Sharonda along with her son and two grandchildren, remembering all the good she did with her life.

#### UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY SEGUIN OF GREATER CHICAGO



For the Year Ended June 30, 2020 (with Comparative Totals for 2019)



	Without Donor		With Donor				
	Restrictions		Restrictions		2020 Total		2019 Total
Public Support & Revenue							(As adjusted)
Public Support:		_		_		_	
State of Illinois	\$ 33,694,725		-	\$	33,694,725	\$	30,301,121
Government Grants	\$ 118,205	\$	-	\$	118,205	\$	247,263
Department of Education	\$ 1,408,641	\$	-	\$	1,408,641	\$	1,352,133
Community Development Block Grants	\$ 332,416	\$	607,106		939,522	\$	872,209
IHDA Funding	\$ 60,715	\$	-	\$	60,715	\$	160,166
Community Mental Health Act (708)	\$ 316,224	\$	-	\$	316,224	\$	335,385
Contributions	\$ 3,508,413	\$	360,166	-	3,868,579	\$	3,671,604
Total Public Support	\$ 39,439,339	\$	967,272	\$	40,406,611	\$	36,939,881
Revenue:							
Work Contracts/training	\$ 89,108	\$	-	\$	89,108	\$	144,261
Client Fees	\$ 4,087,423	\$	-	\$	4,087,423	\$	4,044,955
Rental Income	\$ 157,563	\$	-	\$	157,563	\$	122,401
Investment Income	\$ 33,342	\$	-	\$	33,342	\$	114,287
Gain (loss) on sale of assets	\$ (43,945)	\$	-	\$	(43,945)	\$	6,923
Other	\$ 500,013	\$	-	\$	500,013	\$	572,515
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$ 1,207,454	\$	(1,207,454)	\$	-	\$	4
Total Revenue	\$ 6,030,958	\$	(1,207,454)	\$	4,823,504	\$	5,005,342
Total Public Support & Revenue	\$ 45,470,297	\$	(240,182)	\$	45,230,115	\$	41,945,223
Expenses							
Program Services	\$ 40,925,127	\$	-	\$	40,925,127	\$	38,100,843
Supporting Services	\$ 3,990,973	\$	-	\$	3,990,973	\$	3,542,304
Total Expenses	\$ 44,916,100	\$	-	\$	44,916,100	\$	41,643,147
Change in Net Assets	\$ 554,197	\$	(240,182)	\$	314,015	\$	302,076
Net Assets							
Beginning of the Year	\$ 16,398,667	\$	1,507,750	\$	17,906,417	\$	17,604,341
End of the Year	\$ 16,952,864	\$	1,267,568		18,220,432	\$	17,906,417



Christy Prewitt was a dynamic, fun-loving, and dedicated Foster Parent who touched the lives of all she met.

Christy was a licensed UCP Seguin Foster Parent for over 8 years and in that time, opened her home to five children needing specialized care. She was a not only a dearly loved mother and a friend, but a fierce champion for UCP Seguin. Her enthusiasm was contagious and she encouraged all she met to learn more about our organization.



Seguin Services and UCP Seguin served Joseph Krickl, Jr. since 1965.

Joe has lived many places including UCP Seguin residential homes while consistently received day services from UCP Seguin. Joe was a quiet man with an artistic eye. He loved all forms of art, especially painting and drawing and was very proud of his ceramics creations. Joe loved attending a variety of activities, including Seguin RCA summer camp. Joe valued his time alone, relaxing in his favorite chair looking at magazines while listening to the radio. All who knew Joe genuinely miss him, and especially those in his large family including his father Joe.

# SEGUIN GARDENS & GIFTS ADAPTS TO THE PANDEMIC TO MEET COMMUNITY DEMANDS



Spring 2020 presented an unprecedented challenge to Seguin Gardens & Gifts (SGG). The Garden Center staff quickly realized that it was not business as usual during the pandemic, reinventing the operations to accommodate customer demands while maintaining their health and safety. Staff moved the entire store inventory to the ecommerce site – seguingardens.com – and began offering online ordering, contactless, curbside pick-up, as well as limited home delivery. SGG received rave reviews for this service and grew its business by more than 750 new customers. Over time employees with developmental disabilities have been able to return to work at Seguin Gardens & Gifts. Staff's proactive actions have effectively sustained and increased sales during this challenging time, while limiting the negative impact of COVID-19 on customers, staff and people with disabilities.

Curbside pickup became the norm everywhere, including Seguin Gardens & Gifts.





### THEY DESERVE MORE SPRINGS INTO ACTION

# UCP Seguin Plays Leadership Role in 5th Year of Advocacy for People with Disabilities & Their Dedicated Caregivers

UCP Seguin continues its leadership role with They Deserve More (TDM), a 90-member statewide coalition, now in its 5th year of intensive legislative advocacy to increase funding for community services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. A major component of TDM is to secure equitable wage rates for direct support staff wage and other operational cost reimbursements.

Since 2017, They Deserve More has been instrumental in raising the state wage reimbursement for DSPs from by 35% and securing the first cost-of-doing-business increase in 11 years for programs for people with disabilities. Most of our frontline workers are women and persons of color, each of whom deserves a living wage.

TDM is anchoring its current advocacy on a comprehensive rate study commissioned by the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) – the Illinois Developmental Disability Services Rate Study regarding Residential Services & Related Supports, published by Guidehouse. This study – two-years in the making – provides recommendations for a more permanent "fix" to the community service system.

They Deserve More has filed "sister" bills in the Illinois House (HB1818) and Senate (SB578) to carry our message forward in the General Assembly, calling for more than \$329 million in increased appropriations in the FY2022 State Budget to fully implement Guidehouse's first year recommendations. TDM is advocating for wage reimbursements of 150% of the applicable state or local minimum wage. We are also calling for multiple other rate increases consonant with the recommendations in the Guidehouse study. In addition, TDM has sister resolutions in the House and Senate to amplify our message, and to generate greater engagement and support among members of the General Assembly.

More details on how you can take action in support of They Deserve More legislation can be found at the TDM website: **theydeservemore.com** 

As always, please follow UCP Seguin as well as They Deserve More on Facebook and Twitter for the latest updates. Spring into action to support this noble cause: People with Disabilities Deserve More in Illinois!



# UCP SEGUIN FOOD HUB GOES MOBILE DURING PANDEMIC







The UCP Seguin Food Hub, a food pantry for the UCP Seguin community, was crucial to surviving the COVID-19 pandemic, providing food to the UCP Seguin's shift-staffed group homes, adult foster homes, children's foster homes, and participants living independently or with their families. When the shelter in place rules were enacted, the Food Hub transitioned to online ordering. Staff developed a website for the homes, foster parents and families to shop and provided contactless delivery to the front doors. Since the beginning of the pandemic, the Food Hub has received nearly \$250,000 worth of donated food from the Greater Chicago Food Depository, Aldi and Target.

Photos: Left to right: Armando Garcia keeps the Food Hub fully stocked to feed UCP Seguin homes; Tomas Ruiz Dominguez ensures UCP Seguin participants are well fed by keeping the Food Hub fully stocked.

# STAYING ENGAGED WITH THE WORLD DURING THE PANDEMIC ...through Infinitec

In March 2020 seemingly the world stood still, as the ravages of the pandemic spread far and wide. Schools and other public venues were closed as individuals sheltered in place. Major disruptions were experienced most acutely in special education. Students with disabilities – so reliant on in-person supports from dedicated professionals – and their parents were adrift, faced to rely increasingly on technology to sustain their learning and growth. This is where UCP Seguin's innovative Infinitec initiative came to the rescue.

Established in the mid-1990s, Infinitec promotes opportunities for inclusion and independence for children and adults with disabilities through assistive technology, information and training, and access to specialists. Its Assistive Technology Exchange Network or ATEN refurbishes and recycles donated computers, peripherals, alternative input, and communication devices and redistributes them free of charge to children with disabilities. Infinitec has a huge footprint, supporting tens of thousands of students with disabilities and professionals in nearly 1,100 school districts across Illinois and three other states. Infinitec's assistive technology and augmentative communication supports mean increased inclusion, independence and choice for persons with disabilities. Through the Infinitec Social Services Coalition, UCP Seguin now provides a host of on-line and classroom training services to over 50 organizations serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

As the pandemic emerged, for its many school and social service provider coalitions, Infinitec was poised to fill the void of social isolation with technology, education and training. Educators, special

education students, and parents accessed its online services at record-breaking levels. Infinitec's systems were extremely challenged, however, to meet this bursting demand. With grants and generous gifts through the UCP Seguin COVID-19 Emergency Fund, Infinitec was able to upgrade its online platform to handle current needs and those far into the future. In the first six months since its July launch, the site has been accessed well over 500,000 times by more than 150,000 users.

The net result: During the pandemic, Infinitec has been a lifeline – a crucial means of connecting with and engaging the world – for children and adults with disabilities, their families, and the professionals who support them.



# WITH SPECIAL THANKS DONORS

Donors include those who provided support during Fiscal Year 2020 – July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Although we have taken great care to assure accuracy of listing, we apologize for any errors or omissions.

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## **TOM MIKRUT SWINGS INTO ACTION**

To Support His Brother **Larry and UCP Seguin** 



For the past 25 years, Tom Mikrut has been a mainstay for the UCP Seguin "family". Tom is brother to Seguin participant Larry Mikrut. Larry, a resident of Cicero only a stone's throw from the Carr Center, began receiving services from Seguin in 1996, and is involved in washing cars at Seguin Auto Center among his many gainful enterprises. He is able to self-transport throughout the year using his bicycle and his undaunted determination. Larry is sociable and involved in his community - there is nary a soul in Cicero who doesn't know Larry.

From his home in the south suburbs, Tom has stayed close to his brother, while working with UCP Seguin to ensure Larry is provided services to help him have a productive, meaningful life. But beyond being a loving brother to a UCP Seguin participant, Tom has made extraordinary efforts to bring greater support to the UCP Seguin cause. He has generously donated his time and personal treasure in honor of his brother. He has advocated with his many friends to join him in supporting this worthy cause, while also enjoying themselves in the sun and fun of golfing special events. Urged on by Larry and Tom, these friends have helped to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars over these years to benefit individuals with developmental disabilities served by our organization.

Due to his ongoing advocacy and fundraising efforts, in 2013 UCP Seguin bestowed on Tom the Marjorie A. Feeney Volunteer of the Year Award.

This past year, due to the coronavirus, we were unable to host a golf event and faced the potential of losing the generosity of these "Friends of UCP Seguin" when their support was most needed. Tom swung into action once again. The result: through his direct encouragement, Tom's friends contributed \$7,000 in support of the UCP Seguin COVID-19 Emergency Fund, enabling UCP Seguin to ensure the health, safety and well-being of people with disabilities and their dedicated caregivers.

Tom is humble and unassuming about all he does for his brother Larry, and for UCP Seguin. He shows how brotherly love can bring about "life without limits for people with disabilities".

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# You too can... LEAVE A LEGACY OF SUPPORT

Please let us know if you have remembered United Cerebral Palsy Seguin of Greater Chicago (FEIN 36-2894174) in your estate plan. We would like to add you to our Honor Roll of Visionaries.



Natalie Sodeika, a dedicated and loving parent, immersed herself in caring for her son and UCP Seguin participant Marius in all the ways a mother knows best. She showered him with love, while volunteering her time and giving of her treasure to support her son and other people with disabilities served by us. Her final act of generosity was choosing to include UCP Seguin in her estate plan, bestowing her home to UCP Seguin as a loving tribute to her son and the organization that has ably served him. Gifts like these make a significant impact for those we serve...and we are eternally grateful to Mrs. Sodeika for her forethought and bountiful charity.

There are many ways to add us to your planned charitable giving.

### **ADD US AS:**

- Beneficiary or alternate beneficiary of your Donor Advised Fund, retirement account or life insurance policy
- Simply designate United Cerebral Palsy Seguin of Greater Chicago in your will or trust documents.

### **CONSULT**

Please consult your legal and financial advisors about how best to support UCP Seguin while securing the maximum tax benefit for yourself, and then notify:

Dawneen Suriano 708-222-4251 dsuriano@seguin.org



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# UCP Seguin Springs Ahead into the Light – How You Can Help

Over this past year, you have stood with us as UCP Seguin has faced significant challenges from the coronavirus that has swept our nation and world. With your support, we have adapted our services, while taking steps needed to ensure the health, safety and well-being of the people with disabilities we serve, their families, our employees, our foster parents, and the community.

UCP Seguin continues to incur added costs to secure protective gear and other basic provisions required to continue providing to meet health and safety protocol that the virus has necessitated. We continue to need funds for communication devices and other technology and equipment to provide services remotely as needed.

For these reasons, UCP Seguin asks that you continue to give as we spring ahead, healthy and whole, into the light and out of the darkness of the pandemic.

### **WE CALL UPON YOU**

Friends of UCP Seguin – to donate generously to UCP Seguin's Spring Ahead into the Light Fund.

Please make online donations at our website:



ucpseguin.org/get\_involved/ spring-ahead-into-the-light.html

Or use the contribution envelope in this Annual Report to send your donation.

YOU CAN MAKE A
TREMENDOUS
DIFFERENCE IN THE
LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITIES – AND
THEIR DEDICATED
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