



Your Generosity in Action

As we reflect on the past year, we are profoundly grateful for you and for your generosity, which empowers individuals with disabilities to live life without limits. During the 2024 fiscal year, UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago was able to expand programs and enhance services, ensuring that each individual has the support they deserve to achieve their potential, advance their independence, and live as full members of the community.

Last fiscal year, we were able to make significant investments in nearly all program areas in order to strengthen our impact because of your steadfast support. The largest spending increase occurred in Community Living (CILA), which saw a \$2.79 million increase over the 2023 fiscal year, allowing us to improve the quality of our residential program for adults by increasing staffing levels, enhancing training, and addressing operational needs.

Children in foster care continued to thrive in stable, nurturing environments, as an additional \$1.13 million was allocated to case management, family support, and services that help young people transition into adulthood.

Additionally, Community Day Services expanded by \$1.68 million, fostering independence and social engagement for adults with disabilities by providing opportunities for recreational activities and outings, volunteerism, and skill-building.

This progress is only possible because of our supporters and donors like you. Every gift, partnership, and act of support fuels our mission. Thank you for your unwavering belief in our work. Together, we are creating life without limits for people with disabilities.

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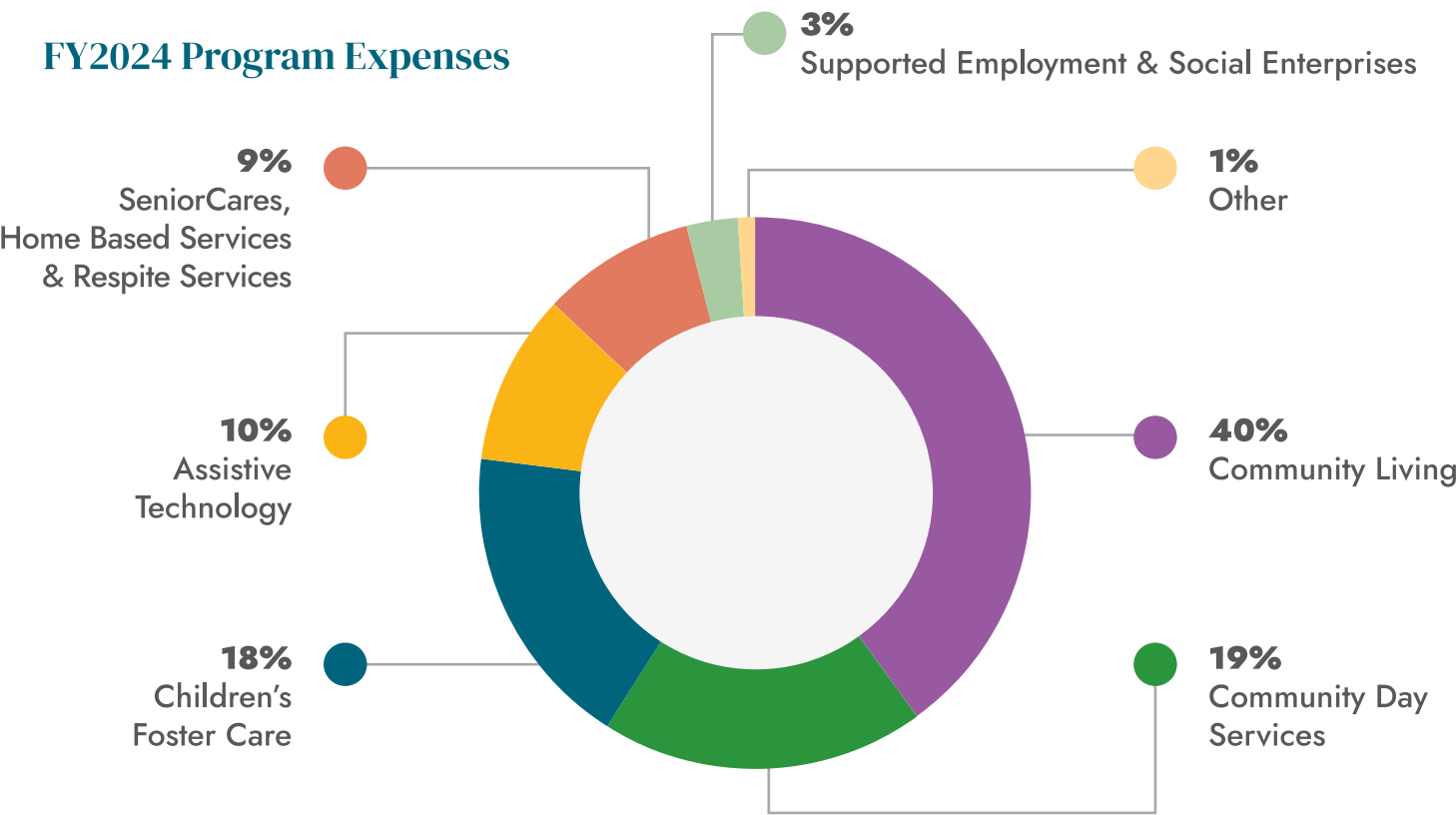
Cyrus J. Walker

Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Overview

Revenue	FY2024	FY2023
Government & Private Funding	\$ 54,196,356	\$ 46,113,870
Client Fees	\$ 4,951,092	\$ 4,730,368
Other	\$ 1,618,468	\$ 1,301,055
Total	\$ 60,765,916	\$ 52,145,293

Expenses	FY2024	FY2023
Program Services	\$ 52,206,073	\$ 45,561,710
Supporting Services	\$ 5,475,361	\$ 5,191,931
Total	\$ 57,681,434	\$ 50,753,641

FY2024 Program Expenses



Together, We Made the Year Count



1,110



Infinitec School District
Partners in 6 states

320



People living in community homes
or receiving respite services

76

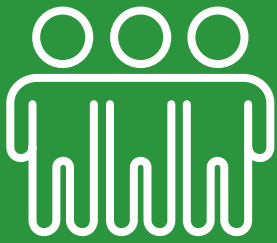


Community-based homes
for adults with disabilities

150



Youth in Care in our Children's
Foster Care Program



500

People received Community Day Services,
Life Skills Training, and Community Employment



1,740

Individuals empowered
to live life without limits



600

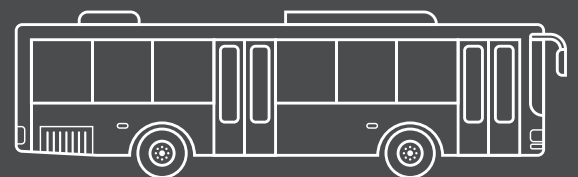
People benefited from Building Bridges
to the Future transitions program

8



Community Day
Services sites

250



People in Social and
Recreational Services



Joe Brings Art and Heart to Seguin Gardens & Gifts

Joe works alongside Jackie and Denise for two hours each week, glazing pottery and crafting beautiful handmade holiday ornaments that are sold at Seguin Gardens & Gifts, one of our social enterprises. The store exists to provide employment opportunities and training to individuals with disabilities, including those who create products for the store's UCP Seguin Made line. Last year, the store offered more than 300 ceramic pieces and more than 250 ornaments crafted by these participants.

Joe's an artist and carefully considers the colors of the glaze he chooses for each piece. He's also a great salesperson! He can be found talking with staff about the store's latest ceramics, like the teapots that were introduced last year, and encouraging them to make purchases for their friends and family.

Every Garden Center customer enrolled in the loyalty program receives a birthday card with a coupon and a handwritten message. Joe generously offered to try writing those messages with the support of Hilary, a staff member who leads participants in the creation of products for the Garden Center.

Joe's determination paid off! With Hilary's guidance, he completed 83 handwritten birthday greetings in a two-hour work session and has continued to help write birthday greetings. He takes a lot of pride in his hard work, knowing that he's spreading cheer to customers as they celebrate.

Juan Holds It All Together

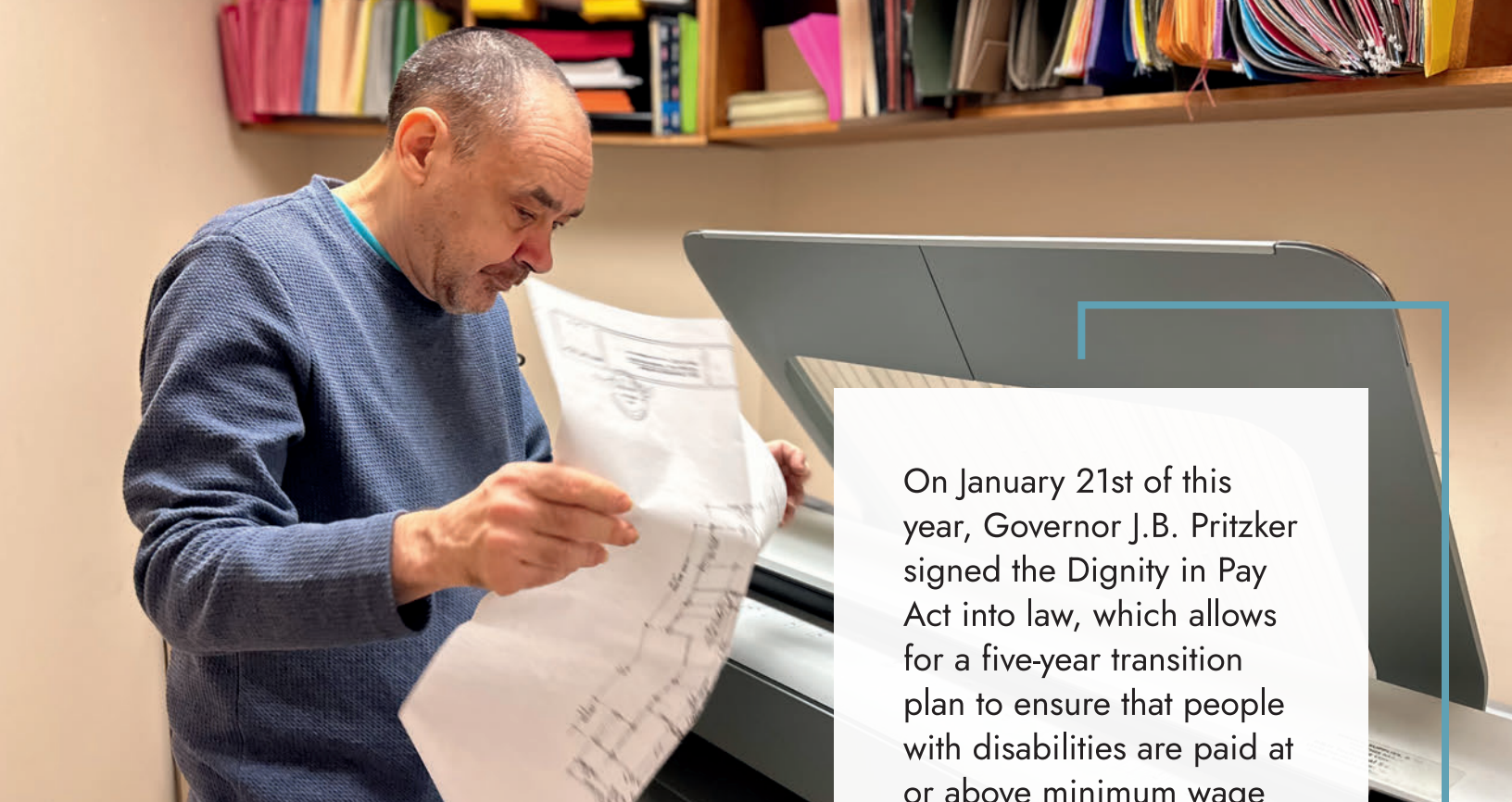
You may remember Juan's story from this past holiday season, when we shared how respite services through UCP Seguin empower Juan to live more independently - and even help take care of his parents.

What we didn't mention is that Juan is a valued long-time employee of UCP Seguin, working alongside Diane and Alberta, who manage benefits for adult participants. Diane describes Juan as "the glue" of their office, and he is indispensable - he manages hundreds of benefits files, handles mail, and keeps supplies in order.

Juan is known not just for his hard work but also for his warm, thoughtful personality. He's called the Chief Holiday Decorator of the Carr Center's third floor. And on the days he's in the office, he lends a hand to the Town of Cicero bus driver, helping participants get where they need to go.

Juan's contributions at home and at work are a testament to his kindness and hard work - and to the value of respite services, which empower him to be more independent and thrive in all areas of his life.





On January 21st of this year, Governor J.B. Pritzker signed the Dignity in Pay Act into law, which allows for a five-year transition plan to ensure that people with disabilities are paid at or above minimum wage for their labor.

A Win for Fair Wages and Independence

Your advocacy and donations fueled UCP Seguin's efforts to help ensure that the Dignity in Pay Act was passed into law. While our employment programs already provide wages at or above minimum wage, the Act also brought another critical change that will greatly improve the quality of life for individuals living in Community Integrated Living Arrangements.

People with disabilities who reside in community-based homes face limits on the amount of money they can spend each month. Participants spend this allowance on things like toothpaste, clothes, and outings in the community, all of which have become more expensive in recent years. The Dignity in Pay Act increased this allowance from \$60 to \$100 per month.

But for one participant, Joey, this money also goes towards maintaining the home he owns. Joey has occasional, ongoing help with certain tasks so that he can live as independently as possible. Because Joey receives these services, he depends on his personal needs allowance to make ends meet.

With this increase, Joey can more easily afford food and other needs, see more movies with friends, and care for his cat Timo. Joey shared that "it feels good" to have more money and that he feels less anxious about affording the necessities.

"For many of our participants, it's made a world of difference,"

- AMBER GRZEDA, VICE PRESIDENT OF ADULT SERVICES

Making a Difference One Hour at a Time

Participants at UCP Seguin gave back in a big way in 2024. Participants at our eight Community Day Services sites make a difference for others through volunteerism. They take great pride in their work, knowing they're giving back to their communities.

Their volunteer jobs range from decorating care packages for people undergoing cancer treatment (through Phil's Friends) to caring for plants outside of businesses in Villa Park. But participants make the biggest impact by addressing food security, ensuring that families and seniors throughout their communities have access to delicious, healthy food.

At Meals on Wheels alone, participants dedicated over 7,300 hours, delivering hot meals and a friendly visit to older adults in their communities. Participants also gave their time to organizations like Feed My Starving Children, Loaves & Fishes, and the Salvation Army Food Pantry.

Through Community Day Services, your generosity fosters independence, allows participants to gain new skills, and most importantly, empowers participants to give back while spending time with friends and building inclusive communities where everyone has an important role to play.



27,818
HOURS
of community service
in 2024

Opening Doors to a Life Without Limits

We approach residential services with a key question in mind: How can we give people as much independence as we possibly can?

For some individuals, this means around-the-clock care from a consistent caregiver such as a foster parent. Others might do best with a hands-off approach that provides support with only certain tasks so a participant can be independent.

That's the case for the six residents who will soon call a three-story building in Westchester home. The building was recently purchased with a Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Project Funding Grant sponsored by Congressman Danny Davis. Guests at our recent fundraiser, The Big Event, provided some of the items needed to make a house a home.

The building has two three-bedroom apartments for residents and a finished basement. Staff will be on hand for tasks like medication management and will ensure the comfort and safety of residents, but residents will be largely self-sufficient and act as full members of their community.



A Winning Partnership

In the fall of 2023, UCP Seguin became a licensed retailer with the Illinois Lottery. We staff and service machines and kiosks that dispense lottery tickets in three terminals at O'Hare International Airport. This allows us to offer more employment opportunities to participants beyond those in the community and at Seguin Gardens & Gifts and Seguin Auto Center.

Danny was selected as the first employee in this program, thanks to his strong interest in technology - especially computers. He enjoys working with the machines that dispense lottery tickets. Each week, he and fellow participant Peter operate machines, refill tickets, and provide outstanding customer service.

The program has been a success. Both Danny and Peter enjoy their work and feel a sense of pride and accomplishment. The Illinois Lottery has also been a supportive and patient partner, providing onsite training and accommodations for participant employees.



The commission we receive from ticket sales allows participants to be paid a fair wage, and we're able to provide the staff support and transportation needed to ensure Danny and Peter's success through the support of the community.

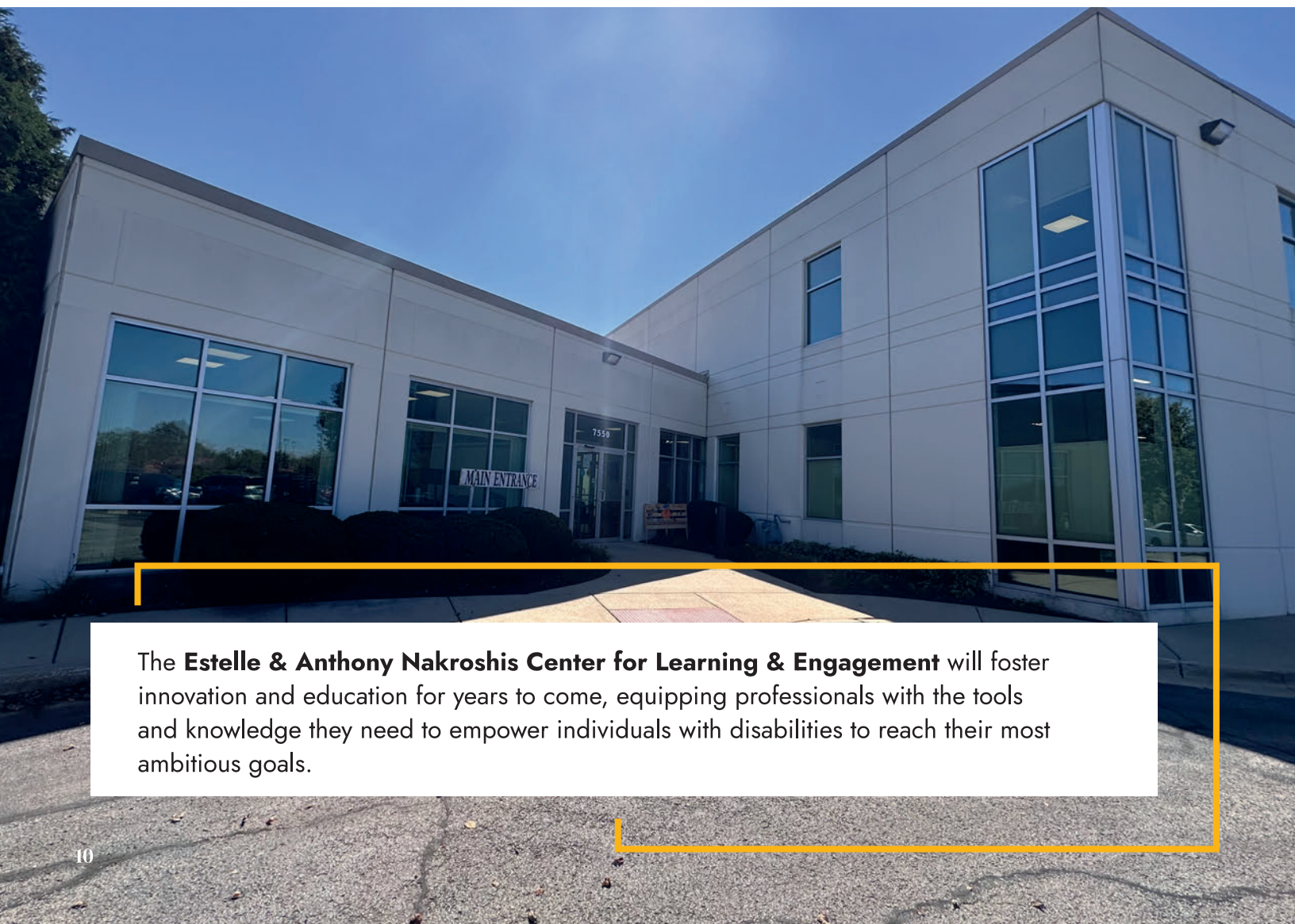
Other participants have expressed interest in working alongside Danny and Peter, and we hope to add additional opportunities for meaningful employment in 2025.

Advancing Learning & Engagement in Tinley Park

This spring, our Tinley Park Community Day Services location will become home to the Estelle & Anthony Nakroshis Center for Learning & Engagement, which will be dedicated to advancing education and professional development. Both Estelle and Anthony dedicated their careers to educating young people and have been champions of UCP Seguin for many years. We're proud to honor their commitment to the children and adults we serve by naming this Center in their honor.

The Center has been designed as a hub for learning. Direct support professionals, educators, UCP Seguin staff, and even outside groups will be able to host innovative training using the Center's new, state of the art audio-visual equipment. Infinitec will be able to seamlessly and remotely connect with education professionals in more than 1,100 school districts in six states, providing them with essential assistive technology training.

The Center will be dedicated on May 21st with two sessions of learning and inspiration for UCP Seguin's direct support professionals followed by an evening reception honoring Estelle and Anthony.



The **Estelle & Anthony Nakroshis Center for Learning & Engagement** will foster innovation and education for years to come, equipping professionals with the tools and knowledge they need to empower individuals with disabilities to reach their most ambitious goals.



Back in the Game: Special Olympics Returns to UCP Seguin

After a hiatus of several years, UCP Seguin athletes are back in action, gearing up to compete on two Special Olympics teams thanks to the generosity of the Rivers Casino Foundation and donors like you.

This spring, participants will compete in traditional track and field events like runs, race walks, high jump, shotput, and the pentathlon. Athletes using wheelchairs will have the opportunity to compete in races and relays. This fall, 15 athletes will bring back our basketball team, which has historically been a formidable force on the court.

The Special Olympics teams will empower athletes to improve their well-being, build new skills, and make new friends while participating in a little healthy competition. With support from dedicated staff and volunteers, athletes will receive the accommodations they deserve.

We're excited for the upcoming track and field and basketball seasons, which will be in addition to our existing Boccia Paralympics team. We hope you'll cheer on our athletes as they compete once again, and we'll keep you updated on all of their victories and moments of triumph - on and off the field!



**Mark your calendar and join us for one -
or both - of these exciting events in 2025!**

Stroll & Roll
June 22, 2025

Life Without Limits Golf Classic
September 15, 2025

Thank you to our event sponsors for making life without limits possible for people with disabilities!

2023 LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS CLASSIC

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Tarrytown Expocare Pharmacy
Tipsters Village Pub
Tom Callahan Plumbing
UCP Seguin Management Team

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Jesse Castro	Julie Lerch
Peggy Childs	Kristen Mahay
Kelley Currier	Lori Opiela
April Dear	Andrea Palm
Greg Grill	Heidi Russell-
Amber Grzeda	Green
Sammy Gutierrez	Inga Sandoval
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THE BIG EVENT 2024

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Windy City Bulls
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Zanies Chicago Comedy Club

STROLL & ROLL 2024

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