UCP seguin
of Greater Chicago
Life without limits for people with disabilities™



2026

Fall Spotlight

A Message From Our President



2026 has been a year of growth, transformation, and new beginnings at UCP Seguin. While we have faced challenges along the way, the dedication of our staff, the resilience of the people we support, and the generosity of supporters like you have enabled us to meet each one with determination and optimism. Because of your partnership, we continue to create opportunities, strengthen communities, and help people with disabilities live life without limits.

Thanks to your support, we have celebrated several exciting milestones this year:

- **UCP Seguin's Board of Directors has adopted our 2026-2029 Strategic Plan**, a bold roadmap that will guide our efforts to expand opportunities, strengthen services, and create an even greater impact for people with disabilities and their families in the years ahead.
- **UCP Seguin successfully achieved Praesidium accreditation through 2029**, marking our sixth consecutive accreditation cycle. This achievement reflects our unwavering commitment to risk management, abuse prevention, and maintaining the highest standards of care and accountability.
- **Our partnership with Levy Restaurants at Soldier Field** has become a powerful avenue for community engagement, introducing new volunteers to our mission while generating critical funding for programs and services through concession operations.
- **We opened the first of two Stabilization Homes in Hillside**, providing a supportive transition for adults with disabilities moving from State Operated Developmental Centers into community living. This innovative program empowers individuals to build independence, confidence, and meaningful lives in their new communities.

These accomplishments are possible because of you. Your generosity fuels innovation, expands opportunities, and ensures that individuals with disabilities have the support they need to pursue their goals and dreams. As we look ahead, we remain committed to building a more inclusive community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, and the individuals and families we serve, thank you for believing in our mission and investing in a future filled with possibility. ***Together, we are creating life without limits.***

Joseph Mengoni
President/CEO

ADVOCACY STARTS WITH US:

Join the Movement for Greater Opportunity and Inclusion

UCP Seguin
Advocacy Network

Join the UCP Seguin Advocacy Network and help amplify the voices of people with disabilities at the local, state, and federal levels. Stay informed, take action, and be part of creating meaningful change. Sign up today to receive advocacy alerts, legislative updates, and opportunities to make your voice heard.

Be part of the change - join the UCP Seguin Advocacy Network today!

ucpseguin.org/get_involved/advocacy/

A HOME. A CHOICE. A FUTURE.

Through your generosity, UCP Seguin's Stabilization Homes provide a pathway from institutional care to greater choice, inclusion, and meaningful community living.



Everyone deserves the opportunity to choose how they live, where they belong, and what their future looks like. Yet for many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), those choices have historically been made for them.

This is where UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago steps in.

In partnership with the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS), Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), State-Operated Developmental Centers (SODCs), and Support Services Teams, UCP Seguin operates two specialized Stabilization Homes as part of Illinois' Stabilization Program. These homes are designed to support individuals transitioning from State-Operated Developmental Centers to community-based living, with the ultimate goal of successful placement in a permanent community home.

The Stabilization Homes, one for men and one for women, provide highly individualized supports tailored to each person's strengths, preferences, goals, and support needs. Individuals typically reside in the homes for approximately one to one-and-a-half years while they prepare for greater community integration and long-term success in a community-based setting. During this transition period, UCP Seguin provides enhanced residential, clinical, behavioral, nursing, mental health, and case management services to help each person build the skills and confidence needed for a successful future.

Just like all adult residential homes operated by UCP Seguin, the Stabilization Homes provide 24-hour staffing by Direct Support Professionals with specialized training, Board Certified Behavior teams, qualified nurses, and comprehensive support services. Through personalized supports, residents develop daily living skills, strengthen relationships, increase independence, and prepare for successful community living.

But beyond the staffing, training, and clinical supports, this is a home.

Residents have their own bedrooms and make choices about how they decorate and personalize their space. They build friendships, participate in community outings, enjoy social activities, and discover new experiences that reflect their interests and aspirations. Every opportunity is guided by each person's goals, preferences, and readiness.

Today, UCP Seguin's female Stabilization Home is at full capacity, serving four women who have successfully transitioned from SODCs into the community. The recent opening of the men's Stabilization Home marks another important milestone, expanding opportunities for more individuals to make this life-changing transition from institutional care to permanent community living.

UCP Seguin Stabilization Homes provide more than a place to live. They provide a pathway to independence, self-determination, and a future filled with possibility. A home is more than four walls. It's a place where people feel safe, valued, and free to dream about what's next.

Watch for more ways to give in the weeks ahead.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL TRANSFORM LIVES.

A BROTHER'S LEGACY:

How Tom Mikrut's Love for Larry Inspires More Than Two Decades of Support for UCP Seguin



For more than 20 years, Tom Mikrut has been one of UCP Seguin's most dedicated supporters. His commitment began with something simple yet powerful: his love for his brother, Larry. Today, that love continues to fuel Tom's unwavering advocacy for people with disabilities, even after Larry's passing last year.

Larry began receiving services from UCP Seguin in 1996. A lifelong resident of Cicero, Larry was well-known throughout his community for his friendly personality, independence, and determination. Whether riding his bicycle around town, participating in programs at the Carr Center, or helping wash cars at the Seguin Auto Center, Larry demonstrated what it means to live a productive and meaningful life. As many in Cicero would attest, it was hard to find someone who didn't know Larry.

What began as advocacy for his brother soon grew into a remarkable commitment to the broader mission of UCP Seguin. For more than a decade, Tom has served as a key member of the Life Without Limits Classic Committee, leveraging his extensive network of friends, colleagues, and fellow members of Prestwick Country Club to support the event. Through his efforts, he has assembled teams of golfers, sponsors and donors, generating critical funding that helps sustain programs and services for individuals with disabilities.



Tom also encouraged Larry to play an active role in the Golf Classic, helping him conduct the event's annual putting contests and engage with supporters. Together, the brothers became familiar faces at one of UCP Seguin's signature fundraising events, creating connections and raising awareness for the organization's mission.

Today, although Larry is no longer with us, his legacy lives on through Tom's continued dedication. Tom remains a steadfast advocate for people with disabilities and a passionate ambassador for UCP Seguin. His story is a powerful reminder that the bond between brothers can extend far beyond a lifetime, creating a lasting impact that enriches an entire community.

The 2026 UCP Seguin Life Without Limits Classic was a tremendous success and a beautiful day on the course at Seven Bridges Golf Club in Woodridge. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our sponsors, golfers, and supporters, the outing sold out and raised more than $124,000 to support children and adults with disabilities.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated, sponsored, volunteered, and contributed to making this event possible. Your support helps create opportunities, promote inclusion, and empower the individuals served by UCP Seguin to live life without limits.

Thank you for helping make a lasting impact in our community.

BUILDING TOMORROW TOGETHER:

UCP Seguin Launches a Bold New Strategic Plan

Over the past several months, UCP Seguin has engaged in an extensive strategic planning process designed to shape our future and strengthen our impact. We are pleased to share that the UCP Board of Directors has officially adopted our new Strategic Plan for FY 2026-2029. This plan was informed by the voices and perspectives of many stakeholders, including families, supporters, community partners, staff, and the people we support.

This marks an exciting milestone, but it is only the beginning.

A strategic plan creates a roadmap for where we want to go. Its true value comes from the actions we take and the progress we make together. Over the next three years, this plan will guide our decisions, investments, and efforts as we work to expand opportunities and improve outcomes for people with disabilities and their families.

Our Strategic Plan is built around four Pillars of Excellence:

"Growth that does not create a better experience for the people we serve is not the right growth." - Joe Mengoni



LOOking Ahead

As we begin implementation, teams across UCP Seguin will focus on advancing strategic initiatives, measuring progress, and identifying new opportunities to strengthen our services and impact. We are committed to transparency and accountability as we move this work forward.

Throughout the coming months and years, we will share updates about our progress, key accomplishments, and the ways this plan is helping us create meaningful change.

Thank You for Being Part of Our Journey

This achievement would not have been possible without the support, feedback, and partnership of so many individuals who care deeply about UCP Seguin's mission. We are grateful to our families, donors, community partners, staff, volunteers, and advocates who continue to help shape our future.

FALL IS IN FULL BLOOM
at UCP Seguin!

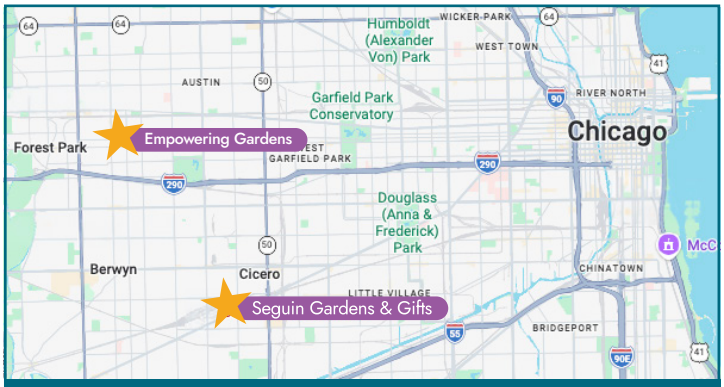
Empowering Gardens
together with seguin gardens & gifts

The growing season may be changing, but the excitement is just getting started at Empowering Gardens, UCP Seguin's newest Social Enterprise and a proud part of Seguin Gardens & Gifts. After a successful summer filled with vibrant blooms, meaningful employment opportunities, and community support, the team is preparing for a colorful fall and festive holiday season.

Whether you're refreshing your porch, brightening your garden, or searching for unique seasonal décor, you'll find plenty to explore. Fall plants have arrived, and our talented team of staff, volunteers, and participants is ready to help you find the perfect addition to your home.

Shoppers can also discover a growing selection of hand-painted ceramic gifts created by our paid artists. These unique pieces have been a customer favorite since the spring reopening, and the team is already hard at work creating new seasonal items, including handmade holiday ornaments.

Best of all, every purchase helps support opportunities for people with disabilities while celebrating their creativity and talents. Be sure to visit Empowering Gardens or stop by Seguin Gardens & Gifts in Cicero to shop seasonal plants, greenery, gifts, and more.



Seguin Gardens & Gifts
5621 West 31st Street
Cicero
seguingardens.com

Empowering Gardens
7730 Madison Street
Forest Park
empoweringgardens.org



WHAT DID WE

Do This Summer?

We Made New Friends



We Cheered



We Laughed



We Sang



We Competed



We Shared



We Celebrated



UCP seguin
of Greater Chicago
Life without limits for people with disabilities™

3100 South Central Avenue
Cicero, Illinois 60804-3956

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corks *for a cause*

Smell, swirl, sip, create life without limits!
Join us at Corks for a Cause - a wine tasting that cares.

Get your tickets now by scanning the QR code



November 12, 2026
6:30 pm

Seguin Gardens & Gifts
5621 West 31st Street | Cicero

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