

# EDWARDS CENTER



ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2020

OF OPPORTUNITY

TIME



# PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

## New Year, New Beginning!

As we enter a new year ready to address the challenges that continue to unfold due to COVID-19 and all of the things happening in Washington DC, we are grateful for how our donors have stepped up and helped us meet the challenges of 2020. However, with 2020 behind us, many of those same challenges are before us and will continue to require tenacity, cooperation and resolve for us to overcome them in 2021.

We are so grateful for our dedicated staff that continue to do the hard work daily caring for our participants while maintaining our gold standard of care.

As your Board of Directors met via zoom a few months back to map out our strategic plan for 2021-2022, we continue to be very mindful of the challenges before us and no less committed to moving ahead with determination and resolve.

We ask you to continue to support us as we press forward and get beyond this COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

Ken Karalus  
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## EXECUTIVE LEADER REPORT

### A Season of Hope

I've noticed some common themes in some of the conversations I have with Tim, Alison, Tara and many others who live in our homes and participate in our other programs. I've noticed our conversations don't seem to dwell on the challenging events of the last year. It isn't that those things don't come up, but it seems like our discussions have a very optimistic tone to them. Instead of getting stuck on some of the trials we've faced, the topics seem to move toward what we're doing and where we're going and how were supporting each other. Similar conversations come up with many of our staff members.

We've learned how to help our residents find innovative ways to stay connected. Much of this has happened inside the walls of our homes. Game nights, movie nights and themed meals have helped form new household traditions that we all get excited about! We get great feedback from the people who participate in our online activities through CLS (thank you Rhonda and team!). We see people take part in those who previously kept very much to themselves. It's so great to see them involved and excited! Of course, we look forward to opportunities to engage in person in the broader community.

Our employment team has worked hard to ensure there is work available as the community opens up. They've maintained contact with our employers, filled orders and kept several people employed throughout. As employers begin to come back on line, they're making it a priority to get the people we serve back into their workforce. We're finding new opportunities as well - the group that provides food service at Intel, for example, expects to hire dozens more of our supported workers before the end of the year. Yes, dozens!

Despite what we might see on the news, there's still so much to look forward to! Through the people we serve, we're learning not to get mired down in the pessimism that seems to want to invade our communities. Our team has hope! We're seeing progress in the ways we live, work and even thrive. Challenges have given us a chance to make our world a little bit better; we're embracing that and we're excited about it. We invite you to join us in recognizing the things that bring us hope.

We are so grateful for your shared commitment to our mission. We wish you a healthy, exciting new season!

Very sincerely,

Allen Cress  
EXECUTIVE LEADER







# FOUNDER'S REPORT

## What Sets Edwards Center Apart

I was asked recently by a staff member what I tell people when they ask how Edwards Center is different from other service providers who offer residential, employment, or community services; here is my response:

First, Edwards Center is a **family-based** organization. We started the company with families who had a desperate need, and we continue to be responsive to, and supportive of, family input and leadership. Through Edwards Center's Family Support Network (FSN) and Vox (Latin for voice) committees, families have direct access to leadership, education, and ongoing feedback within the organization. Families are represented on our Board of Directors in a significant way so that family concerns are never lost.

Edwards Center maintains a tireless commitment to its **mission and original values**. We are a values-based organization; the Board and our leaders are continually evaluating and making tough decisions based on our values and goals. Working with an annual strategic plan, the Board weighs each decision based on our mission. That mission and its deeply felt values keep us from "following the money" or making shortsighted decisions.

Edwards Center is an **umbrella organization** which makes us unique in our industry. We provide residential, vocational, educational, and recreational services. Long ago, the Board made a commitment to provide an array of services, giving our participants and residents an opportunity for a fully independent lifestyle. In addition, the company benefits from staff that is knowledgeable about all aspects of our range of services. The Aloha Community Center was built to be the hub of activity for our organization, a place where participants could have something larger than an individual group home. Dances, game nights, classes, and exercise opportunities are generated from our Community Center at Edwards Place.

Finally, Edwards Center is unique **in the promise it makes**. We promise to care for a resident who is accepted into our residential program for the rest of his/her life. Parent's worst fear is: *What will happen to my developmentally disabled child when I am gone?* Families need not fear that Edwards Center might cease to care for their child or move them to a foster home. **Our model of continuum of care between our twenty facilities allows us to meet the life-long needs of our residents.** At the end of life, we work closely with hospice to provide care within our own group homes, so that residents continue to be cared for, and surrounded by, their Edwards Center family and staff.

Edwards Center seeks a **"Gold Standard of Care."** While all organizations accepting state reimbursements must meet minimum standards, Edwards Center seeks a maximum standard. We want to be known for being "better," and for always striving to improve the quality of life for those we serve. During times of COVID-19, it is not easy to hold true to our model of service delivery; but we have not forgotten that we strive to be the best. State and Federal mandates often make new models that are more lucrative or devalue our approach. If we were "following the money," our model would change with each passing fad for funding. However, we continue to hold true to our values, commitments and what over forty-seven years of providing services has proven true: Our family-based care model works!

**As one of the most difficult year ends, a year that a pandemic and catastrophic financial losses could have closed our doors, my heart is full of gratitude. Hundreds have made donations large and small because they believe in our mission. Every donation counts and has helped us stand strong in the midst of unsettling times.**

*Thank you for your continued support of our Mission!*

Warmest regards,

*Jean Edwards*

Jean Edwards  
FOUNDER





# MEET MELANIE FROM OUR OAK STREET HOME

While 2020 was certainly a challenging time for many, it also brought a lot of good. For many of us, this meant spending more time with family, working on projects at home that we enjoyed, learning new skills or just spending more time slowing down. This was the case for many of our residents who have spent the last year bonding with their housemates and finding new and fun ways to stay busy at home.



Melanie McFarlane joined the Edwards Center community just before the pandemic began when she moved into our Oak Street Home and she has spent the time getting to know her new housemates who are now becoming more and more like family. Before the Stay At Home order, Melanie attended a day program through Full Life where she would participate in community-based activities such as going out to the library, playing games, taking art and pottery classes and going out to eat. When this program (and many others like it) were suspended, Edwards Center staff got to work to ensure that what is often the most exciting part of the day for our residents did not stop.

While staying home, Melanie has still engaged in some virtual programs with Full Life but has also found a way to make the best of her time. She has been enjoying spending her time watching TV, playing games on her phone or Nintendo Switch, helping staff bake on the weekends, chatting with the staff and her housemates and playing games - especially UNO! While she may not be leaving the house as often, she's still able to stay connected to her friends and participate in activities she enjoys: two of the most important things.

Throughout the pandemic, our staff and volunteers have gone above and beyond to help ensure our residents can remain engaged, connected and excited about life. As we have all experienced, it can be challenging to stay home and see the same people day after day... but the dedication our team has to making it as easy as possible for our residents have been incredible. Our participants are always at the center of what we do, and our pandemic response has been no different.

ZOOM has played a big role in helping our participants stay connected. Twice a week, the Edwards Center hosts "Happy Half Hour" which is described by Human Resources Manager Jeff Greer as being "an hour of (un)orchestrated chaos ... as long as we're under a Covid sky... there is no structure whatsoever, but it \*IS\* an opportunity for people to see one another, wave, do shout outs and have some degree of connectivity." Additionally, many of our residents find joy each week in participating in Sunshine Treasures Sunday School virtually - a way to connect with their peers and their faith.

While 2020 gave us many things that could have discouraged us, our staff and residents have done such an excellent job of looking on the bright side and finding creative ways to stay connected and engaged and for that we are so grateful!

With gratitude

Megan Evanson  
EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATE



# SHARE

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020  
**REVENUE & EXPENSES**

**REVENUE:**

DHS State of OR & Brokerage Contracts	\$9,959,196
Edwards Enterprises	\$392,689
Client Fees	\$755,976
Other Revenue	\$214,714
Fundraising	\$1,690,331
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$13,012,905</b>

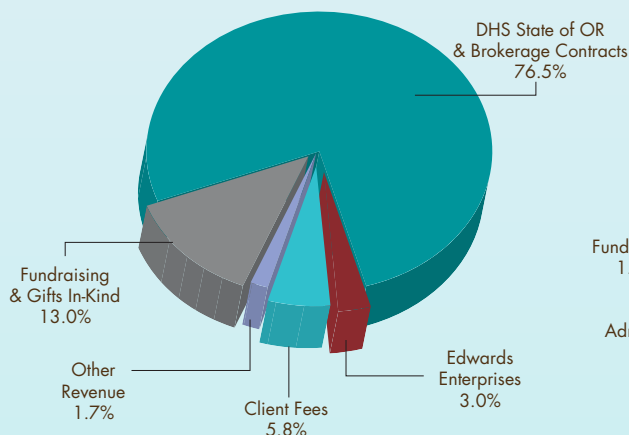
**EXPENSES:**

Residential	\$7,335,848
Employment	\$1,626,169
CLS Day Programs	\$1,456,595
Administrative	\$1,247,812
Fundraising	\$168,385
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$11,834,809</b>

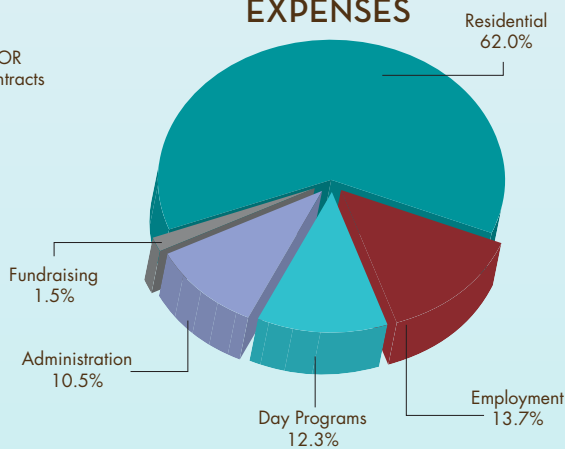
**STRATEGIC GOALS FOR 2021**

- Recover financially from COVID pandemic
- Return workers to community Jobs and place additional workers
- Transform Day Programs to 80% time in community participation
- Purchase additional Home in Washington County for 18-30 year olds
- Relocate ECM in the fall of 2021
- Complete Edwards Place
- Continue to seek Gold Standard in all programs and facilities
- Build DSP fund to a distributable level

**REVENUE**



**EXPENSES**



Thanks to all our volunteers, who served over  
**2,265**  
**VOLUNTEER**  
**HOURS**

**VOLUNTEERS APPRECIATION**

**We couldn't do it without you**

Community Volunteers are a valuable resource to Edwards Center. Some volunteer weekly and work directly with participants, others volunteer for one day work parties or special projects. Volunteers are always needed for fundraising events and special events.

February 28th Edwards Center held their first Vaccine clinic and volunteers from Fournier Group Insurance + Risk Management, showed up to park cars, direct traffic and observe participants after their shots and see them back to their cars safely, Fournier believes in the mission of Edwards Center and helps us in many ways.

Thanks for all our volunteers and board members who donate their time and expertise.







# DONOR LISTING BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 2020 AND DECEMBER 31, 2020

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- Karen Rashoff
- Reser Family Foundation
- **Pat Reser & Bill Westphal**

Bolded names denote individuals giving over \$10,000 | If your name is missing from our list, please contact Megan Evanson at mevanson@edwardscenter.org



# DONOR LISTING BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 2020 AND DECEMBER 31, 2020

- Fay Reynolds
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- Mark and Laura Yockey
- Rebecca Zaglen
- ZRT Laboratory
- Lorraine & Roger Zumwalt

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## FOUNDATIONS WHO SUPPORTED US IN 2020

Kuni Foundation - Covid Fixed Cost Losses	\$42,634
Washington County Cares - Employment Losses	\$115,800
Oregon Community Foundation - Day Services	\$50,000
Gilmore Foundation - General Fund	\$25,000
Lowes Foundation	\$5,000
Parkwood Foundation - Edwards Place	\$300,000
Kleinheinz Family Foundation	\$50,000
Kuni Foundation- Pheasant House Remodel	\$79,400
Reser Family Foundation - Covid Losses	\$10,000
Maginnis Charitable Foundation - General Fund	\$1,500
Stephen S. and Paula K. Smith Family Foundation - General Fund	\$1,000
Frank and Margaret Bitar Foundation	\$2,500

## 2020 VIRTUAL BENEFIT GALA



The 2020's benefit gala, "Coming Home," required us to pivot to a virtual event and online auction! While we missed seeing each of you in person, the event was a great success. If you missed it, a link to the online program is available on our website! Special thanks to the event donors, and to Dirk Fournier for hosting the event. Your contributions enable us to provide a lifetime of opportunities!

Virtual Benefit Gala raised \$418,514



## WE MET OUR MATCH

Pat Reser and Bill Westphal jump started our first virtual fundraiser by offering a challenge match up to \$50,000 the night of the event. And we did it! While a new way to do a fundraiser that offered some challenges, the virtual event was a great success.

Pat and Bill are long-time supporters who personally believe in our mission. Living near by the Center, we feel like neighbors. Deeply committed to Beaverton, they support improving the quality of life for many in our community. We appreciate being one of their Charities.



## EDWARDS CENTER'S MISSION

It is our mission to enhance the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities by helping them reach their highest potential through training, education, employment, housing and social opportunities in safe, healthy and stimulating environments.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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