



The Voice

Voice of Care — In Christ among People with Disabilities

May 2014

Mission Statement

To equip the Church to nurture people with disabilities and their caregivers in their walk with Christ.



Deaconess Kris Blackwell — Executive Director

I have been thinking about the word *hope* lately. First, there is a great Bible Study on *hope* in the Spring 2014 issue of the Lutheran Women's Quarterly. Then, I attended annual luncheon for Joni and Friends, another Christian ministry to people with disabilities. Joni Earekson Tada, speaking via video, said the greatest need of people with disabilities is *hope*. Finally, we just celebrated Easter. Jesus' resurrection from the dead is what gives us true *hope* now and for all eternity. Not just wishful thinking but a certainty.

1 Timothy 4:10 says "For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our *hope* set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe." And that is our mission here at Voice of Care, to equip individuals and congregations to share this *hope* in Jesus among people with disabilities and their caregivers. What a joyous task! What a huge task! It has now been reported that in all of northern Illinois there are 1 million people with disabilities who need to know Jesus and be connected to a church home.

We are in the middle of our 50 day challenge to raise \$25,000. With this money and the grant from the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod of \$25,000, we have more than enough in reserves to consider hiring additional part-time staff. It is our hope that this will allow us to train more people to share the Gospel of *hope* to people with disabilities in the northern Illinois area and throughout the United States. It is my prayer that many of our donors will participate in this campaign. We have the ability to bring the hope of salvation to many and the Holy Spirit will use our message to change lives for all eternity.



"Mile for Mileage"
Pledge Walk

Save the Date!

"Mile for Mileage" Pledge Walk
Saturday, July 12, 2014
10 a.m. to 1p.m.

Castaldo Park, Woodridge Illinois

Walk an easy mile and then stay for a picnic lunch!

All the information you need to Register online and start collecting pledges is at
www.voiceofcare.org

Want to register a small group? Call Deaconess Kris 630-234-1491

Good Vibes for a Good Cause 2014

Nearly 100 people enjoyed music, food, and fellowship at our 6th annual fundraising event. Again, Marklund underwrote the cost of the event so that the tickets and the silent auction money went completely to our goal. Over \$7,000 was put towards replenishing our reserves. Over \$2,000 was raised in the silent auction alone. Thrivent Financial also donated \$2,100.

Everyone enjoyed listening and dancing to the sounds of The New Invaders who graciously discounted their fee for us. They truly believe in our ministry. Many of their faithful fans now join us each year and they, too, have come to love our ministry.

Hope to see YOU next year!



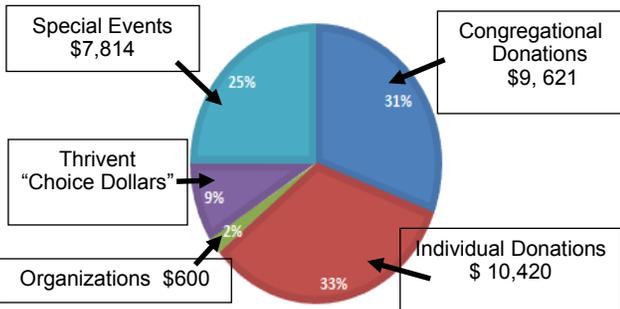
Stories from Our Volunteers

Volunteer Chris Bishop writes, "I have to commend my assistant! Valeria is a 3rd grader at St. Johns Lutheran School in Elgin. She is Pastor Catalans' grand-daughter and he started bringing her to Little Angels when she was a second grader. Pastor is now in Guadalajara, but he volunteered for 4 years at Little Angels. He instructed her to continue in the ministry and she is faithfully following his wishes. We are a team of two and we enjoy our time with each other and the residents very much. She is loved by the staff and residents. "



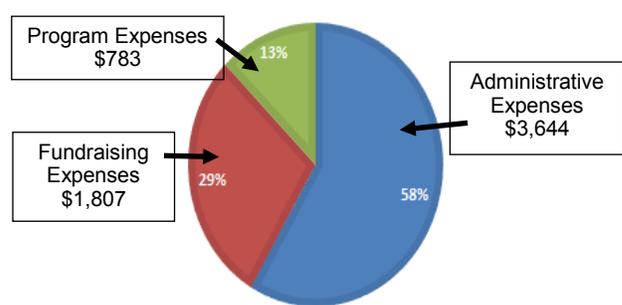
Children often have an easier time sharing their faith than adults. Voice of Care would love to have more families involved in our ministry to facilities. To find out how, just call Deaconess Kris Blackwell at 630-234-1491.

FIRST QUARTER INCOME FEBRUARY - APRIL 2014



Special Designated Fund LWML Grant \$50,600
Total Used so far \$17,731 balance \$32,869

FIRST QUARTER EXPENSES FEBRUARY - APRIL 2014



Reserve Fund as of April 30, 2014 \$15,000



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A Registered Service
Organization of the
Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod