



www.b-olsoncenterofhope.org

BARBARA OLSON
Center of Hope



2017-18 Annual Report

Changing the Impossible

Tomorrow we dare to dream and change the impossible to reality as we seek integration of Barbara Olson Center of Hope participants and high school students into our community by providing innovative Programs and Services. These programs will offer active, enriching, therapeutic, educational, vocational, and employment-oriented services outside of the conventional Developmental Training Program walls.



Carm Herman, Executive Director

It is our goal to utilize our businesses and services as both an employment opportunity for our participants and staff, and as an avenue to become less dependent on state funding. We will use any revenue from our businesses to enhance the Center's programs by providing adaptive equipment and assistive technology that will enable our participants to enhance their abilities through intensive

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Mission

Help individuals with developmental disabilities reach personal goals through individualized skill development, vocational opportunities, and community service.





Dr. Kendall Boone, 2017-18

Dear Friends,

It has been another banner year for this wonderful organization. It is amazing that

From the President of the Board

Barbara Olson Center of Hope is celebrating its 70th year of helping individuals with special abilities. I am sure that Barbara Olson herself would be proud to see what her center has become and how bright the future appears. The Center continues to provide a safe, supportive environment for individuals to not only improve their skill sets and utilize them to the best of their abilities, but to have fun while doing it.

We are blessed to have such dedicated staff and aids to

help accomplish these goals. We are blessed with awesome participants and their families. I truly believe there are treasures in heaven awaiting all those who contribute their time, energies, talents and finances to this worthy endeavor.

*Kendall Boone
Board President*

“The Center continues to provide a safe, supportive environment for individuals to not only improve their skill sets and utilize them to the best of their abilities, but to have fun while doing it.”

Impossible, continued from Page 1

vocational training, life-skills training, community job placement, training and sensory integration training. We also strive to teach good citizenship through our participants’ involvement in numerous community projects at our Volunteer Center.

Our current goals are to integrate as many participants as possible into the community

on a daily basis and find more revenue through our current and new businesses. We want all our participants to be as independent as possible at home, at work and in the community. We were thrilled to open our newest site in Rockton, which has ten participants who spend their day enjoying the community.

2017-18

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Dr. Kendall Boone, President
Tim Rogowski, Vice President
Jerry Boxleitner, Treasurer
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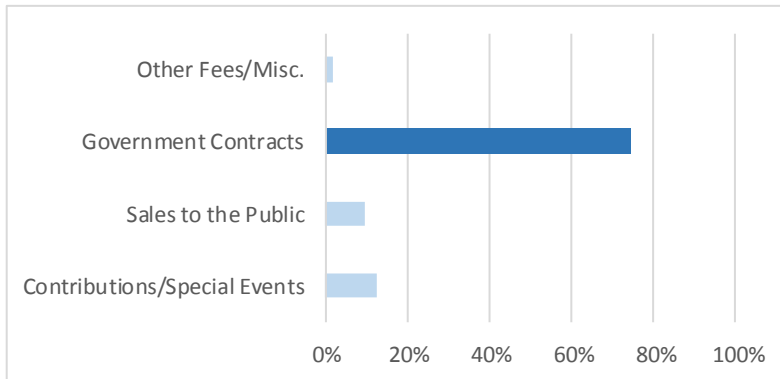
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Steve Slowinske, LaVonda Timm,
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2017-18 by the Numbers

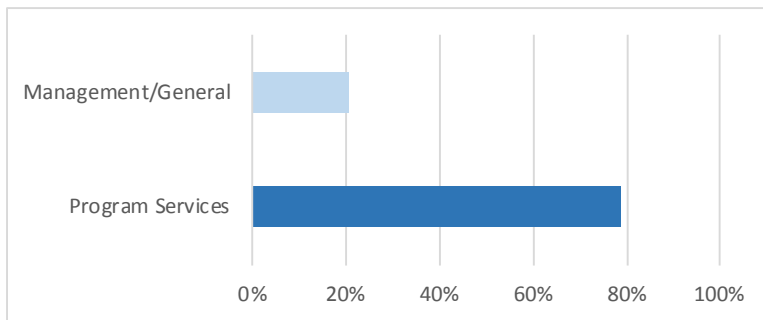
Operating Revenues

75¢ of every \$1
come from Government Contracts



Operating Expenses

80¢ of every \$1
are committed to Program Services



Source: FY 2018 Financial Audit

About Our Participants

TOTAL: 166

GENDER

| | | |
|--------|-----|-----|
| Male | 103 | 62% |
| Female | 63 | 38% |

AGE

| | | |
|-------|----|-----|
| 22-34 | 54 | 33% |
| 35-54 | 88 | 53% |
| 55+ | 24 | 14% |

RACE & ETHNICITY

| | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|
| Caucasian | 120 | 72% |
| African American | 34 | 21% |
| Asian | 2 | 1% |
| Hispanic | 7 | 4% |
| Other | 3 | 2% |

RESIDENCE TYPE

| | | |
|----------------|----|-----|
| CILA | 72 | 43% |
| CILA Host Home | 8 | 5% |
| Home | 78 | 47% |
| ICF | 7 | 4% |
| Nursing Home | 1 | 00% |

Key

CILA (Community Integrated Living Arrangement)

ICF (Intermediate Care Facility for Developmental Disability)



Barbara Olson, Founder

In 2018, Barbara Olson Center of Hope celebrated its 70th Anniversary. It's appropriate to share a little about how we got

70 Years Ago: How It All Started

started in 1948 and our founder, Barbara Olson.

The dream of a School of Hope to educate children with developmental disabilities to whom the public schools denied access first began in 1948.

Classroom activities began in family basement quarters and at various locations throughout the city. Eventually, the Rockford Parent Group built the first School of Hope on Arthur Avenue in 1959. The land and building were entirely funded by the parents' donations and numerous fundraising events, without any federal or state grants!

The law changed in 1972 and public schools were required to provide a free, appropriate education to all children. Since the School's children now attended public schools, the School redirected its mission to focus on adults with disabilities and provide them with opportunities. As more adults were accepted, the School of Hope needed even more space. In 1982, the Whig Hill School building on Central (the current location) was purchased and named the Barbara Olson Center of Hope, to honor the woman who spearheaded the group's efforts.

Local Business Doing Business with COH



Our Hope Industries division brings in vital income to the Center. By hiring our participants to perform jobs for local businesses, partner companies support our revenue flow, offer self-esteem, and provide paid work for our participants. For Endries International, Inc., our participants do light assembly of parts and packaging. Our contact at the local Endries

division wrote this:

I would like to send a quick thank you for all the service you have been able to provide for Endries over the many years. Endries has worked with the School of Hope for more than twenty years. I appreciate the quick response, the quality of the work and the supportive staff. Linda and Kristen are definite assets to your organization, outstanding to work with, able to get the assembly and other jobs done timely, and on several occasions, very quickly.

I hope to continue this working relationship for many years to come.

Best Regards,

*Randy Clauson
Sourcing Analyst
Endries International, Inc.
4250 McFarland Rd, Loves Park, IL*

Thank You

Our most sincere thanks to all of donors, sponsors, and supporters. We sincerely apologize if any name has been inadvertently omitted. This in no way reflects our appreciation.

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Thank you to the following foundations that awarded grants to the Center of Hope.

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Rockford Cosmopolitan Charities

Woodward Inc. Foundation

Clockwise starting top right: Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, Super Shredders van; Woodward, Inc. Foundation, new roof; Rockford Cosmopolitan Charities, changing table.

